

A close-up, artistic photograph of a person's eye. The eye is looking slightly to the right. The eyelids and surrounding skin are heavily coated with a vibrant purple glitter. The eyelashes are dark and appear to have some purple glitter applied to them as well. The lighting is soft, creating a dreamy, ethereal atmosphere. The overall color palette is dominated by shades of purple and pink.

*get perspective.*



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get perspective.







*get perspective.*

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## get insight.

Each year a new set of trends, excitements and activities emerge. These elements of culture remain unique to each year, setting it apart from others. Some students describe their styles as a way of life. As members of a diverse school community, all students have individual ways of expressing themselves. Students choose to live in certain ways, some the same as their peers and others uniquely. This is the way we live. But it is truly up to us to give our own lives meaning. "No one ever finds life worth living - one has to make it worth living,"  
-Anonymous



photo credit: Junior Shannon Wood

# Culture Shock.

Imagine spending seven weeks of summer in a beautiful foreign country, learning a new culture, language and history.

Sounds like a dream, right?

For three seniors, it was a dream come true.

The Indiana University Honors program selects outstanding high school students to study language and culture in France, Germany, Spain and Mexico. While countless study abroad programs exist for students, the IU Honors program is especially unique. First of all, it is reserved for Indiana students. Students live with a host family and are not allowed to speak English for the entire trip.

"They come back confident," World Language teacher Mrs. Evelyn Steiner said of students. "It's not a struggle for them to speak the language all day long."

World Language teacher Ms. Irene Spiro added, "They are more mature and responsible, and it helps prepare them for college because they are away from their family for so long."

Seniors Brandon Taylor and Courtney Bargfeldt both spent their summer in France, while Senior Christopher Crawford spent his summer in Mexico.

"People are always saying, 'When am I going to use this?' I figured it was the perfect example of when I could use it," Crawford said.

But being thrown into a completely new culture has its drawbacks.

"I felt like my French speaking skills were inadequate to have a successful experience," Taylor said.

In the end, they all coped well, despite the program's no-English policy.

"It was very difficult. I found it hard to not only speak French all the time, but also to think in French," Taylor concluded.

"I was scared I would mess up on the no-English part. I hadn't had French in 12 weeks," Bargfeldt added.

In the end, they all had a once in a lifetime experience.

"I'm really glad I did it," Crawford said. "It made me open to other cultures and made me want to learn as many other languages as I can."



Saying goodbye to her host family, Senior Courtney Bargfeldt takes one last picture. "We all gathered together to take this picture a few days before I left," Bargfeldt said.



Nervous and eager and excited, Senior Courtney Bargfeldt said she was ready to begin her summer stay in Brest, France as a student in the Indiana University Honors program in Foreign Language. "I was really eager to learn more in French culture," Bargfeldt said. The nervousness returned when she came back home. "I felt at several points I had to speak English again, but was happy to return with gifts," Bargfeldt said.

With Jenny Egler, a fellow student in the Indiana University Honors Program for Foreign Language, Senior Christopher Crawford rides on a bus to Guanajuato, Mexico. Crawford spent part of his summer living in San Luis Potosi with his host family. Crawford said he and Egler, a senior from Mooresville High School, were practicing their Spanish.



Under the Eiffel Tower, Senior Brandon Taylor takes a picture that almost every visitor to Paris takes. "Me and my foreign exchange group took a trip to take the Eiffel Tower before I parted my way to Brest, France," Taylor said.



On the sea with his host family, Senior Brandon Taylor joins them on their annual trip while in Brest, France. Taylor said his host family loves to sail. "My family was interested in boats and took boat trips every year," Taylor said.





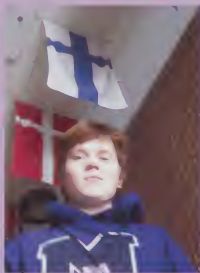


Advantage to me, though, was he had to be in middle school. In his first semester, "I can't say I was with you and US, and then around choosing just food places," Senior Herman Brandsma said. In his second semester, Brandsma said, "I enjoy making my Internet business and being with my best family and friends."

Senior Mayela Martinez said she is adapting to schooling in America. "We stay in one classroom and never leave; the teachers come to us," Martinez said.



"My reasons for visiting the states are different from other foreign exchange students," Senior Hugo Hemmen from the Netherlands said. "I didn't know what I wanted in my life because in my country I already graduated, but I didn't make a choice on college."



Senior Artturi Palosari said that America is a lot different than Europe. "Our culture is different, and the food in Europe is healthier," Artturi said.



Senior Ka-Ki Fong said that adjusting to America was not as difficult for him as he thought. "It was not as hard for me because I live in Hong Kong and I live in the city where everything is fast," Fong said.



"I was happy when I first arrived to the United States from Italy," Senior Monica Dorfling said. "One of her most memorable events was when she missed her plane and had to wait for the next plane to arrive."



"Everything happened so fast," Senior Aksel Tandberg of Norway said. "It took me about a month to adjust to the culture and the traditions of the American life," Tandberg added. "Our school is very different. There is no security or cameras in our school, and they are more lenient towards tardiness."



"I did the foreign exchange program to make new friends and help me learn new English," Senior Fabian Hoffman from Germany said. "Merrillville is different and an easier learning environment and I wish I had the opportunity to stay longer," Hoffman said.



# foreign affairs.

Students from Germany, Hong Kong, Norway, Mexico, Italy, Netherlands and Finland journeyed halfway across the world to visit Merrillville High School for the school year. These eight foreign exchange students experience life in the United States for the first time.

Imagine going away to a high school thousands of miles away from your home, to a new life style, language, home and school.

"It was thrilled and excited. Everything was big. It was cool," Senior Hugo Hemmen of the Netherlands said.

"I like it. It is good and there's a lot of classes; it's different," Senior Herman Brandsma of the Netherlands said.

"It's a big, big campus," Senior Ka-Ki Fong of Hong-Kong adds.

Different schools come with different rules; for many of the students it was a big change. "[Merrillville High School] is way strict; I can't leave school when I want. [At my school in the Netherlands, we] had school at different times, [here, you] have school everyday same times. [Here,] you also have freshmen in some of the classes with seniors, [at my school] we don't," Hemmen said.

[In the Netherlands, we] never have school buses and have few sports," Bransolma adds.

Being their first time in America, new experiences await around every corner.

"[My most memorable experience was] when I went to New York City, Wall Street and the Time Square," Bransolma said.

"I went to Niagara Falls. It was amazing," Fong adds.





In mid-air, Senior Colton McIlroy performs a kick flip at Merrillville Intermediate School. "I like skateboarding more than school sports because it gives you more of an adrenaline rush than normal sports," McIlroy said.

Looking for a shot, Senior Michael Vasquez attempts to help his paintball team win the match. "I just saw it on TV one day and thought it looked like fun, so I tried it," Vasquez said. Vasquez has been paintballing for three years and is now on a team.



## extreme sports.

Danger. Speed. Height. Intensity. Adrenaline. Students say these characteristics set extreme sports apart from all others.

Snowboarding, skateboarding and paintball get high marks from high school students.

With the danger that comes while participating in these high intensity sports, it's no wonder that pain and injury are common.

"I went to stop once and I caught a lip in the snow. That forced me to get whipped backwards and I hit my head on some ice," Junior snowboarder Peter Paskash said.

"I sprained both wrists and an ankle," Senior skateboarder Joeseeph Matczak said.

Risk definitely plays a huge part of making some sports extreme. To some, the risks outweigh the benefits. To other daring individuals, the risk is nothing compared to the feeling of freedom that comes with participation.

"If you love something, then one fall shouldn't stop you," Paskash said.

"You can't stop. It's addicting. You just have to keep trying," Senior paintballer Michael Crist said.

In addition to danger, the equipment doesn't run cheap.

"Skateboards cost about \$100 to \$140, depending on which boards you get," Senior skateboarder Cole McIlroy said.

"For a single day, it costs about \$80, not including equipment which can be about \$900 if you want the good stuff," Senior paintballer Michael Vasquez said.

So if these sports are costly and dangerous, why not just participate in a normal high school sport?

"High school sports aren't as fun. Too serious. It's all about cruising and having a good time," Paskash said.

"[Snowboarding] doesn't require a ball to play with and it is way more exciting."

Extreme sports may be dangerous, but according to Paskash, "every minute is perfect."



Senior Michael Vasquez attempts to help his paintball team win the match. "I just saw it on TV one day and thought it looked like fun, so I tried it," Vasquez said. Vasquez has been paintballing for three years and is now on a team.



Senior Peter Paskash caught a lip in the snow. "I went to stop once and I caught a lip in the snow. That forced me to get whipped backwards and I hit my head on some ice," Junior snowboarder Peter Paskash said.



Attempting an anti-casper, Senior Joeseeph Matczak practices outside of the high school. "It's just something fun to do after school," Matczak said. Matczak has been skateboarding for five years.





# a day in the life.

Kelsey Snyder,  
Sophomore  
"the jock"



6 - 7 a.m.

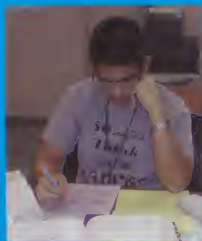
Morning swim practice

Sophomore Kelsey Snyder has been swimming since childhood. I saw the sport as a stress reliever.



7:45 a.m.  
- 2:48 p.m.  
School day

Nojeel Arifee,  
Junior  
"the nerd"



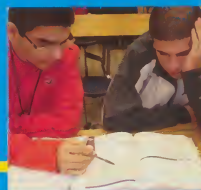
4:30 a.m.

Awake to study and review for an hour.

Young, North Arizonan and International student Nojeel Arifee can't imagine a day without studying. It's his passion.

10:16 a.m.

Tutors at lunch while doing Precalculus homework.



Arifee, a North Arizonan, is a student at the University of Arizona. He is helping other students with their homework.

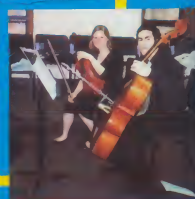
Northwood Ortega,  
Senior  
"the prep"



Senior Northwood Ortega is a student at the University of Arizona. He is a member of the school's debate team.



2 p.m.  
Drives to rehearsal in Chicago.



12:16 p.m.  
Early dismissal from school.

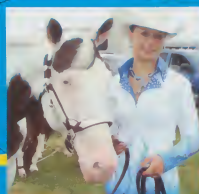


3:15 - 5:30 p.m.  
After school swim practice.



Sydney and Kaitlyn who are both swimmers. Sydney Kaitlyn Barnard because she performs in the swim team.

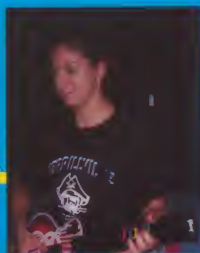
6 - 8:30 p.m.  
Visits barn to feed and ride her horse.



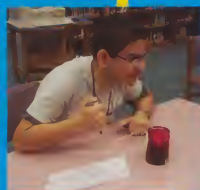
Savannah with her horse, Duality, that she has been riding for 10 years.

9 p.m.  
At home to relax for the rest of the night.

Savannah's sister, Hannah, with her sister, Lila. They play in a band called Lila and Savannah.



2:48 p.m.  
Skips wrestling practice to go to Quizbowl practice.



A young man who is a Quiz Bowl player. He is a member of the Quiz Bowl team. He is a member of the Quiz Bowl team. He is a member of the Quiz Bowl team.

4 p.m.  
Follows Quizbowl practice with Academic Decathlon practice.



12:22 - 1:32 p.m.  
Teaches Mr. Nick Petralia's class and studies during any free time.

3 - 5:30 p.m.  
Rehearses with Salt Creek Ballet.

Olivia, a young girl who is a member of the Salt Creek Ballet. She is a member of the Salt Creek Ballet. She is a member of the Salt Creek Ballet.



6 p.m.  
A quick break to eat right.



6:30 p.m.  
and 8 p.m.  
Perform.

Orin is dedicated to the Chicago Youth Symphony and has been playing with them for three years.



# besties.



"Every day is a nice memory for us, ever since the second grade," Junior Nadiyah Bradley said. Bradley and former Daria Arthur have been best friends for nine years. Although Bradley is a dancer and Arthur is a cheerleader, they still share many of the same interests. "Daria is so determined. She does whatever she sets her mind to. She has always been there for me throughout the years, and she is very caring," Bradley said.



Best friends since their sixth grade years in elementary, sophomore Paige Wilson and Aubrey Cowser enjoy all the time they spend together, their funny moments and their involvement in athletics. "Paige is a great friend. She is so trustworthy and easy to talk to," Cowser said.



Sophomores Mariah Portis and Bianca Portis have been best friends since birth, literally. These girls love having fun at the mall and creating their own inside jokes. "Bianca is always caring. She's also very comical and an all-around nice person. We are so much alike and I think that is what brings us even closer together," Mariah said.



# 2gether Forever.

One year and three months may seem like a long time, but for Seniors Robbie Jordan and Katherine Sadural, time has gone by in the blink of an eye. Between the time they met after the Penn vs. Merrillville football game and the 2008 prom, Jordan and Sadural have shared many memorable moments together. "Katherine is caring, smart and beautiful, of course. What made me like her the most was that she is very outgoing and not shy like most girls," Jordan said.



Seniors Stephen Hart and Cassie Travis have been together for five years. "When I met Cassie, she was sort of a tom-boy, and I automatically liked her. She is so special, beautiful and one of a kind," Hart said.



Juniors Zachary Forsell and Catherine Gamino met in their eighth grade homeroom. They have now been together for a year and a half. Gamino's favorite memory with Forsell was at her 16th birthday party when he had to meet her family for the first time. "Poor guy. He was scared to death," Gamino said. "Zach is ridiculously thoughtful, exceptionally considerate and just an all-around good guy. We started off as good friends, and little by little he grew on me," Gamino added.



Playing video games, traveling and shopping are a few things Juniors Francis Marlisovic and Corey Loudermilk enjoy doing together. "Being friends for such a long time has played a huge role in our relationship that we've formed. Francis is sweet, lovable and he treats me like a princess," Loudermilk said. Traveling to Florida and Lookout Mountain have been some of this couple's favorite things they've done in their one year together.







### **bangles.**

Available at Claire's for \$2.50 each.

Background sketches provided by Senior Rachel Pietraszak.



### **nike 6.0.**

Nike, \$100, [niketown.com](http://niketown.com)

Nike 6.0s come in a multitude of colors and designs. "I wear my Nikes to match certain outfits," Sophomore Anthony Angotti said.



### **chucks.**

Converse, \$44.99, [Converse.com](http://Converse.com)

Available in either high tops or low tops, Chuck Taylors come in numerous designs and colors. "Converse are good for anytime, anywhere and any purpose," Sophomore Jill Ross said.



### **flats.**

Bamboo, \$15

For a more classy and comfortable look, Senior Hamielec Reynolds chooses flats as an alternative to heels. "Flats are way more comfortable than heels, but still dressy," Reynolds said.



### **boots.**

Soda, \$20, [Citi Trends](http://CitiTrends.com)

Boots with buckles, fur lining or other embellishments are great for winter weather. Sophomore Demetria Downing wears her boots to be fashionable when it's cold outside. "My boots go with a lot of my outfits. They're very comfortable," Downing said.

### **colored jeans.**

Grane, \$34, Carson Pirie Scott

To her make herself stand out from everyone else, Sophomore Victoria Verduzco likes to wear colored jeans. "They make you stand out, and the colors can match with your personality or mood," Verduzco said.



The North Face, \$169.00, [thenorthface.com](http://thenorthface.com)  
Junior Francis Martisovic said North Face coats are warm in the winter. "They're comfortable and light. They eliminate the need for a heavy winter jacket," Martisovic said.



Ed Hardy, \$110, [edhardyshop.com](http://edhardyshop.com)  
Ed Hardy shirts and accessories showcase vintage tattoo-like designs with many colors. "Ed Hardy designs are colorful and go with my laid-back style," Senior Ron Landrum said.



Express, \$39.50, Express  
Matching her bold and outgoing personality,  
Junior Emily Kurczynski favors clothing  
with animal print. "I started wearing it to be  
original," Kurczynski said.



cardigan: Fresh Brewed, \$22, Carson Pirie Scott  
top: Fresh Brewed — two-piece set tee and scarf, \$38, Carson Pirie Scott  
skinny jeans: Grane, \$34, Carson Pirie Scott



fashionista.



As part of the devastation of the flood, a truck sinks beneath the water surface on East 73rd Avenue. Floodwaters invaded many homes and damaged both property and possessions. The parking lots, at places such as Merrillville Intermediate School and Target, overflowed with water. Seniors, working with Mr. James Stamper, joined others from the town of Merrillville to clean the mess.

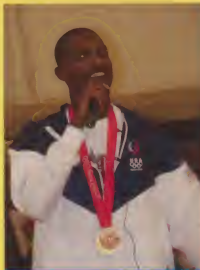


Gas prices have gone up and down repeatedly throughout the last year. Although the gas prices have gone down, some people are still worried about them going up again. "I'm happy that gas prices are low, but you never know how long that is going to last. I'm taking advantage while the price is still low," Senior Ayesha Campbell said. Gas prices have been as high as \$4.95 and as low as \$1.20.



Athletes work at the newly renovated concession stand. As part of the 2008-09 renovation project, the school built a new concession and surge area west of the main gymnasium. "It's wonderful and it's huge. They have some really good food and it's much more spacious," Senior Rebecca Neville said.

*making a special appearance.*





# a year 2008 in review.



In addition to a new concession stand, Demaree Stadium was also upgraded with an artificial turf, a scoreboard/message center and sound system. "We didn't want to put too much money into fixing something that we would have to replace in a few years," Athletic Director Ms. Janis Qualizza said. The price tag of the renovations was just under \$800,000. "In the long run, it will be more cost effective. Typically we spend \$8,000 to \$10,000 on field paint and the turf is virtually maintenance free," Ms. Qualizza said.



With a smile on his face, Coach Jim East celebrates his 600th win. "He's a great coach. When you're in the game for this long, you accomplish great things, just as he has," Senior Ryan Smith said. Coach East won his 600th game December 13, 2008, against Andean, 70-54.



100

GREATEST MOVIES





QUOTE

## get a clue.

Academics are the primary purpose that students attend school. This is often forgotten. Many students become fed up with heavy loads of homework. Yet, gaining knowledge is crucial.

Many students fail to realize that this generation is this country's future. One student could grow up to cure cancer, while another grows up to be the next Aristotle. Students hold the power to bring change, and they owe this to their teachers. Without teachers, learning complex arithmetic or proper writing techniques would be virtually impossible. This generation can improve the world for generations to come. Knowledge empowers students to ask questions, to invent and to create a future better for all humankind. As Sir Francis Bacon once



# EIGHT



President-elect Barack Obama, along with his wife Michelle, and daughters Malia, 10 and Sasha, 7, waves to supporters after giving his acceptance speech on election night. The rally took place in Grant Park in Chicago. (Chuck Kennedy/MCT)



President-elect Barack Obama holds a press conference after meeting with the Transition Economic Advisory Board at the Hilton Hotel in Chicago, Illinois, November 7, 2008. (Zbigniew Badak/Chicago Tribune/MCT)

Newly-elected President Barack Obama





# ★ Academic aims.



*Mrs. Debbie Staffeld*

Some educators teach to make a living; others teach to inspire the lives of those who come into their classrooms each day. To educate takes patience, enthusiasm and the willingness to put up with individuals who come to school for reasons other than those of gaining an education.

Though education is the key to success in the real world, many students fail to realize the effects of their actions during the school day. Mrs. Debbie Staffeld, Mrs. Maryetta Petras and Ms. Sarah Boyle are three teachers who teach for reasons other than earning a paycheck.

"I teach because I want to make a difference. My goal is to positively affect the lives of my students, and even if it only happens with one student, my goal is accomplished," Mrs. Petras said.



*Ms. Sarah Boyle*

All three teachers utilize different techniques to get the students involved and actively learning.

"I use power points because you can be more creative. They get them more involved," Ms. Boyle said.

For students to leave the classroom with a minimum of understanding of what they have learned, they have to be interested in the material being presented to them. Though students' personal successes are ultimately left up to them, some teachers go out of their way to think of ways that they can make the information fun to learn.

"Her teaching style is crazy, but in a good way. She makes me want to learn," Senior Ryan Clark said.



*Mrs. Maryetta Petras*

Students learn in different ways, whether it be visual, hands-on or strictly lecture.

Mrs. Staffeld includes projects in her teaching plan for her geometry classes.

"I think a hands-on approach helps the students learn the material in a way where they can do work and have fun at the same time," Mrs. Staffeld said.

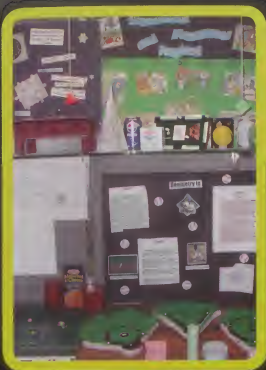
Education is a valuable tool that many students do not realize the worth of until the time for them to shine has passed. Many teachers realize that and go out of their way to help students reach their potential.

"My focus is on the students and them learning," Ms. Boyle said. "I hope that the material will help them in realizing why our world is the way it is."

**"I teach because I want to make a difference. My goal is to positively affect the lives of my students and even if it only happens with one student, my goal is accomplished."**

**Mrs. Maryetta Petras**





"Allowing the students to use poster boards to better explain geometry helps the students relate to what they're learning in class to the outside world into what the students are interested in and something that might be useful later on," Mrs. Debbie Staffeld said.

## Mrs. Staffeld



Sophomore Jill Ross

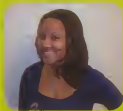


Junior Michael Enghefer

"Mrs. Staffeld is a great teacher. She explains everything over and over until I get it."

"Mrs. Staffeld makes math easy to me. The projects are a way to be creative, even with math."

## Mrs. Boyle



Junior Blair McDaniel



Junior Brittney Cristall

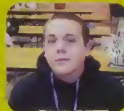
"I think using the PowerPoints and posters serve as visual aids and demonstrate things that we can't learn by hearing alone."

"Using the PowerPoints and posters are more descriptive when it comes to learning. It gets the point across, which helps me learn."

## Mrs. Petras



Junior Julie Hayes

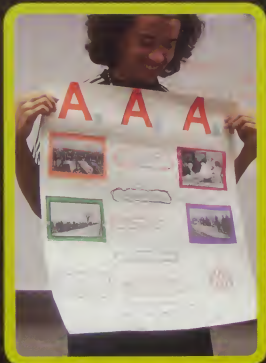


Senior Ryan Clark

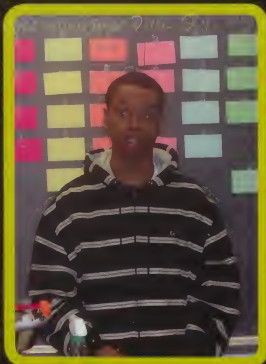
"She keeps me interested and on the edge of my seat. I never know what to expect when coming to her class."

"Her teaching style is crazy, but in a good way. She makes me want to learn."

Junior Nicholas Sanchez presents his project to the class. Mrs. Sarah Boyle uses PowerPoint presentations and posters as learning strategies. "I use the Powerpoints as a learning tool because it gives students a more creative mind, gets them focused and more involved," Mrs. Boyle said.



Acting as the questioner, Senior James Williams plays Jeopardy with the class. Earth Science Teacher, Mrs. Maryetta Petras, uses the Jeopardy game as a learning tool to help her students prepare for tests. "The game is more helpful to the students as opposed to me lecturing them. Students interact more," Mrs. Petras said.





# writing the

# term

# paper.

From freshman to senior year, many students face stress and challenges. For seniors, the term paper seems to cause the most stress and grief.

Keeping up with deadlines and completing the entire paper wear many seniors down.

"The topic of my term paper was gospel music and it took me about three weeks to write it. My advice for next year's seniors, write about something that interests you if you have the option," Senior Antonio Ross said.

Although sometimes stress gets in the way, students do manage to learn something about a topic that interests them.

"I found out a lot of information about my topic, which was abortion, that I did not know," Senior Shonee' Jones said.

The duration of writing the term paper seemed to be the worst part of the entire process.

"My experience writing the term paper was extremely stressful, but I made it harder for myself by not taking it step by step. It took me six weeks to complete my term paper," Senior Suzette Sanchez said.

Teachers are also a helpful link when it comes to guiding students through the term paper, especially when they are struggling.

"I take students through each part step by step, and when they have any questions, they can either come to me or e-mail me," English teacher Ms. Debbie Monix said.

Writing research papers from previous years can be reliable when writing the term paper.

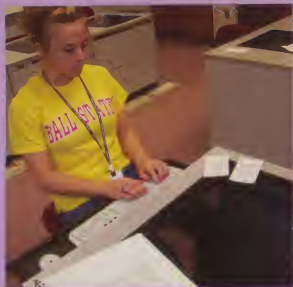
"Besides learning how to write a formal or persuasive essay, writing term papers helps students with time management skills and by teaching them how to meet deadlines which is helpful in the real world," English teacher Ms. Rachel Bateman said.

Another valuable lesson students learn their senior year comes from their government classes. In Socratic debates, students learn to explore the different opinions represented by diverse groups in their classrooms.

"Socratic debates are helpful because we can get opinions of other people and see if they can be convinced," Senior Kevin Hodorowski said.

Many students do not get the chance to get their points across because others may not agree with them, but being able to voice an opinion in class can be a big relief.

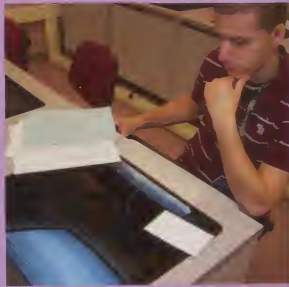
"Having the Socratic debate in class gave me a new outlook," Senior Sarah Williams said, "and made me see things as other students see them."



With her eyes on her keyboard, Senior Kelly Tate types her term paper. "It was super stressful, but not so much at the beginning. The most stressful part was at the end when you had to put everything together and make sure you did not plagiarize," Tate said.

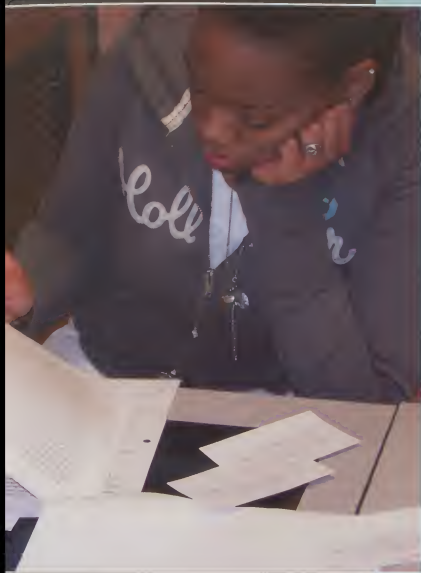


Writing the term paper causes many seniors frustration at first. Senior Kearn Patterson said she found parts of the term paper more difficult. "It was not as hard as I thought it could be, but it was very confusing, especially when we had to put the things together."



The senior term paper is designed to prepare students for college; however, this does not affect Senior Sebastian Johnathan Cowley. "I am going to college for computers, so I won't need to write papers," Cowley said.





Reviewing her paper, Senior Shaterrah Wigley checks her notecards with her term paper. Wigley said the paper was easier than she initially thought, but it was stressful because it accounted for 80 percent of her grade.

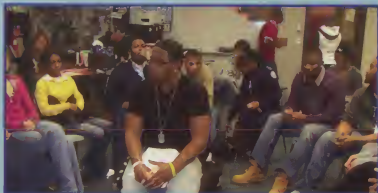
## top 5 topics.



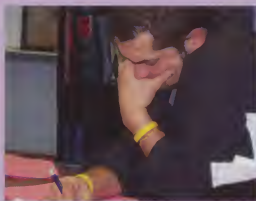
English teacher  
Ms. Malissa Williams  
introduces the debaters to the

1. Cancer
2. Iraq
3. Teen Pregnancy
4. Violence
5. STDs

## Socratic debates.



The last thing to prepare for a debate is to research the topic, Senior Ronald Landrum said. "Just to give your topic some age, it is important to know what you are talking about," Landrum said.



Social Studies teacher Mr. James Stamper said that Socratic Debates are the best way to learn. "Instead of learning from one teacher, you learn from 30 students. As a teacher, sitting back and watching them lead their own debate is like giving them a test but not," Mr. Stamper said.



Even though most of the students enjoyed the debates, Senior Ta'Shai Nelson disagrees. "The debates are not a good way to learn because it's mostly opinion and not facts," Nelson said.



"Everybody has their own opinion and with the debates people can express their opinion," Senior Jaquill Washington said. He said he decided the debates were an enjoyable way to learn and get involved.



# getting out, moving ON.

## building the future.

Inspired by a guest speaker in the third grade, Junior Sanchez Tate prepares to become a civil engineer. "My dream is to build my own house from top to bottom," Tate said.

While taking all the shop classes offered to him, Tate has built a successful Rube Goldberg Machine, a machine that accomplishes a simple task through a series of over-engineered steps. Tate's goal was to make a marble rise out of water, which he accomplished in his 35-step Rube Goldberg Machine.



## prescription for success.

Determined to cure people, Senior Jasmine Jones has selected the pharmaceutical field. "I'll also be making six figures, so I'll be well taken care of," Jones said. Jones is currently taking AP Chemistry, with the hope that she will excel in the Pre-Pharmacy Program at Purdue University in West Lafayette, where she has already been accepted. It is a six-year program in which she will receive her undergraduate degree after four years and earn her doctorate at the end of the program.



## following family footsteps.



Following his older brothers' footsteps, Senior Derek Shea plans on becoming an engineer. With several math and physics classes to aid him, Shea will go to college for four years. "I have my first two years to decide. I either want to work with NASA or planes," Shea said.

## and the award goes to...

Dreaming of an Academy Award, Senior Jonathan Wallace hopes to become an actor. "You need the right amount of training to be a good actor," Wallace said. With that in mind, Wallace is considering Roosevelt University and has already been accepted to Columbia College. "I want to try my hand at a lot of different things, from theater to movies," Wallace said.



## advice for underclassmen.

'Don't roam the halls alone. It is safer if you have an upper classman as a friend.'

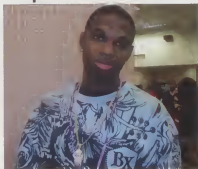
'Don't play around and get all of your credits. High school isn't a joke, the four years go by really fast.'

'Get started on college preparation as early as possible. It will help you out in the long run.'

Senior Kevin O'Neill and Freshman Folahanmi Oduwaye



Senior Ashton Cole



Senior Jennifer Tucker



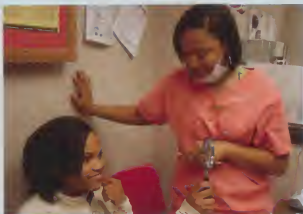
## a taste of talent.

Having a "passion for music," Senior Kayla Meloy has decided to take her career into the music business. Meloy has selected Columbia College as her college of choice due to the fact that they have a four year Music Business degree. After college, "I'll hopefully get a job with a record company. I want to be the one to get a band famous," Meloy said.



## that's a wrap.

Seated in the director's chair, Senior Zachary Sowinski is pursuing a career as a movie director. Sowinski is deciding between the University of Indianapolis and Ball State University to accomplish his goal. "The hardest part is the organization of scenes and getting the right camera angle, but it's rewarding when you get the scenes you want," Sowinski said.



With a love for teeth, Senior Nadia Millard has chosen to go into Dental Hygiene. Millard expresses her interest in dental hygiene by acting as a job shadower in a local dental office. Millard hopes to earn a degree in dental hygiene from Indiana University Northwest's Dental Hygiene Program. "I hear they have the best [dental] hygiene program," Millard said.

brightening  
the future.










## *get pride.*

Athleticism takes commitment, strength, perseverance, hard work and a competitive edge. Pirate athletes measure up to this standard. Athletics inspires Pirate pride, drawing students and fans to games. An athlete's spirit influences the outcome of the game. Confidence and talent are not only components by which to win or lose a game; persistence and spirit often decide the outcome. "In great attempts, it is glorious even to fail." -Vincent Lombardi



new gridiron, new slogan  
motivates team  
to sectional championship.



### Most Valuable

Dolapo Macarthy



### Leadership

Dolapo Macarthy



### Sportsmanship

Dionte Day



### Most Improved

Denzel Pierce



Sophomore Denzel Pierce



This football season brought many changes from the installation of a new field turf, to a new slogan for the team. The new slogan for the team was T.J.N.E. which stands for "talent is never enough."

"It fits the team perfectly, because even though there is a lot of talent on the team, it takes a lot more than talent to win football games. It takes heart and determination," Senior Quarterback Dolapo Macarthy said.

Head Coach Zac Wells did not come up with the slogan on his own.



Senior Christopher Stokes

Junior Landau Lang

Junior Dominique Gray

Searching for an open receiver, Senior Quarterback Dolapo Macarthy (9) picks apart the defense. Macarthy was voted by his teammates to be one of the captains, along with Dionte Day and Aaron Kaczmarek. "When something goes wrong people look at me for an answer," Macarthy said. Macarthy feels that he has greatly improved from last year to this year as the starting quarterback.



With his eyes focused on the opposing Michigan City offensive unit, Senior Linebacker Dionte Day (40) gets ready for the upcoming play. Merrillville defeated Michigan City 17-14. "The biggest goal for us this year is to make it back to semi-state," Day said. Day played offense as well as defense throughout the season.

"We had taken it from talking to the coaching staff at Ohio State University, and one of the things they pride themselves on is the team-first concept," Coach Wells said.

At first the concept was a little unclear to most of the players, but as the season progressed they were able to grasp it.

"I think that the concept has started to take hold as the season has progressed. The more the kids have bought into the concept, the more success the team had on the field," Coach Wells said.

Just like any other sport in any other season, players suffered injuries.

"Dolapo being out for three and a half games hurt us a lot, but every one has been a little dinged up between offense, defense and special teams," Senior Defensive Lineman Aaron Kaczmarek said.

"We have been fighting injuries to key and role players all year long. What has been impressive is when we've needed players to step up and play different positions, not only have they done it, they've been good at it," Coach Wells said.







Junior  
Marcus Howard

Junior Sanchez Tale

Senior Keith Dockery

Senior Jeremy Vislosky

Junior  
Joseph Sepulveda

Senior Keith Thomas



Waiting for the play call from Special Team's Coach Derek Thompson, Seniors Keith Pavlish (35), Chris Stokes (48) and Junior Landau Lang (20) prepare for the opening kickoff. "Special teams is one of the things that really helped us be successful this year," Pavlish said. "It was the one area that the coaches always stressed about."

'It takes a lot more than talent to win football games. It takes heart and determination.'

Dolapo Macarthy

## FOOTBALL

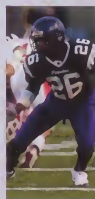
| Opponent       | Score | W/L |
|----------------|-------|-----|
| Warren Central | DQ    | W   |
| Griffith       | 24-7  | W   |
| Crown Point    | 10-7  | L   |
| Portage        | 22-20 | L   |
| Michigan City  | 17-14 | W   |
| LaPorte        | 35-21 | W   |
| Valparaiso     | 24-14 | L   |
| Lake Central   | 34-3  | W   |
| Chesterton     | 24-14 | W   |
| Sectionals     |       |     |
| Crown Point    | 42-6  | W   |
| Munster        | 37-7  | W   |
| Chesterton     | 14-7  | W   |
| Regionals      |       |     |
| Penn.          | 19-0  | L   |

DAC-4-3  
OVERALL: 9-4

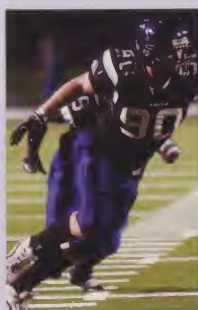


After scoring a touchdown against Crown Point, Senior Offensive Lineman Joey Nelson (59) celebrates with Senior teammate Jeremy Vislosky (61). "My first thought was to jump on it," Nelson said. Nelson recovered a fumble in the end zone for the first touch down of his career.

Squaring up to make a tackle, Senior Defensive Back Robbie Jordan (26) lowers his hips for the hit. "Crown Point is our rival and always gives us a tough game," Jordan said. As a second year starter, Jordan transitioned from offense to a two way player this season. Merrillville lost to Crown Point in the regular season 10-7.



Rushing the quarterback, Senior Defensive Lineman Aaron Kaczmarek (90) pushes past a Michigan City offensive lineman. Kaczmarek will be playing football at Central Michigan University next fall on a full ride scholarship. "I really felt comfortable there and I really liked the coaching staff," Kaczmarek said.



equipment.



Uniform:  
\$80

Helmet:  
\$200



Cleats:  
\$70

the joy of winning a game as a team:  
priceless.



29

"The team had a lot of experience up front, leadership in back and heart throughout the team."

Ryan Stokes



Senior Tyler Roark

"Every second counts" was not only the team's motto, but a symbol that carried the team throughout the season. Coach Brian Past said he came up with the motto to motivate the team and get them back to the sectional final and try to win the championship. This motto followed them into this season, becoming a recurring theme.

Last year, the boys' team had a close loss in the sectional final. After playing 80 minutes and going into two overtimes, Andrean scored with 53 seconds left on the clock, defeating Merrillville.

"The team practiced hard almost

every day of the week preparing for the sectional championship," Coach Past said. Senior Striker Ryan Stokes, as captain this year, demanded great effort at practice and games.

"The team had a lot of experience up front, leadership in back and heart throughout the team," Stokes said.

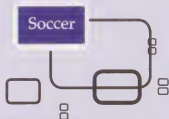
The boys felt short of meeting their goal in sectionals.

"With all the talent on the team, we should have gone further," Senior Midfielder Tyler Roark said. "I was disappointed because of not being able to play with my friends

anymore, not because I felt like there is anything more I could have done," Roark added.

Coach Past said he really enjoyed coaching the team this season.

"They have provided me with great memories of a thrilling season. Even though we failed at our goal of winning a sectional championship, these guys will never be considered failures. They all have bright futures ahead of them, and I'm sure they will be great successes," Coach Past said.



Ryan Stokes  
Most Valuable



Tyler Roark  
Leadership



Steven Guzek  
Most Improved



Andrean Taylor  
Sportsmanship



character. cooperation. victory.



Shoulder to shoulder with a LaPorte Midfielder, Senior Defender Keith Wachter (16) watches as the ball falls. Every game, Wachter said, he comes to play his best and finds relief in playing the game. "I really like playing. It kind of helps me relax sometimes because I get to take out my frustration on the ball and sometimes even other people, but I always come with my 'A' game and never let up until the last whistle blows," Wachter said.

Toe to toe to get control of the ball, Junior Defender Steven Guzek (5) does not fall under the pressure of LaPorte's defender Adrian Martinez (13). Although Guzek has gone up against taller opponents, he has never been intimidated. "I've gone up against guys that have been at least a foot taller than me at times, but that doesn't really scare me. I go my hardest all the time and never back down until I get the ball," Guzek said. On defense, Guzek guarded some of the areas top players.



80 minutes  
to go.

Senior Antonio Carbajal

Junior  
Nicolas Mojica

Sophomore  
James Ooms



*Dribbling unaware of Andream Defenders*  
 Kyle Otte (8) on his back, Senior Midfielder



Brandon Taylor (3) focuses on his next move. As a starting Outside Midfielder and Back Up Defender, Taylor is required to have a lot of endurance. "I've played a lot of different positions, but I think midfield has been the most challenging. If you're not in good shape, you'll get tired quickly from running up and down the field trying to guard your man," Taylor said. Taylor has been a part of the Merrillville soccer team for four years, but does not plan on playing in college.



Fighting to be the first to touch the ball, Senior Captain Midfielder Andrew Goralczyk (23) jumps over Andream Defenders Aaron Mayer (12) and Brian Keilman (20) in an attempt to flick the ball into the back of the net. "Most of the time I play pretty rough and I've gotten a few yellow cards this season. But altogether, it's not because I'm rough but because I give it my all when I'm on the field," Goralczyk said. As a Senior Captain, Goralczyk has led the team to nine victories and 11 close games in which the score was within two goals.



## busy athletes.



For Senior Romeo Harper, running track in the spring helps him keep in shape for soccer season. In his spare time he helps his dad work on houses.



Besides playing soccer, bowling and running track, Senior Brandon Taylor is also in STAND, French club, SADD and the National Honor Society.

In addition to soccer, football and baseball, Senior Ryan Stokes still finds time to play with the Chicago Magic. Stokes is also the baseball representative in MPAC.



### BOYS' SOCCER

| Opponent         | Score | W/L |
|------------------|-------|-----|
| Andream          | 1-0   | L   |
| LaForte          | 2-1   | W   |
| Hoosier Cup      | 5-0   | W   |
| Hoosier Cup      | 2-0   | L   |
| Hoosier Cup      | 4-1   | W   |
| Chesterton       | 3-2   | L   |
| Valparaiso       | 3-3   | L   |
| Michigan City    | 6-8   | W   |
| Hobart           | 3-0   | W   |
| Munster          | 2-1   | L   |
| Crown Point      | 7-6   | W   |
| West Lafayette   | 1-2   | W   |
| Lafayette Jeff   | 8-0   | W   |
| Lake Central     | 3-1   | L   |
| Ft. Wayne        |       |     |
| Canterbury       | 3-1   | L   |
| Ft. Wayne Smiler | 2-1   | L   |
| Portage          | 2-0   | L   |
| Sectionals       |       |     |
| Andream          | 3-2   | W   |
| Griffith         | 3-2   | L   |

DAC: 3-4  
 OVERALL: 9-10

During the first game of the season, Junior Forward Michael Enghofer (10) tries to break away from Andream defender Joe Krilich (7) to dribble up the field. Enghofer had 15 assists and three goals. "No matter what happened, I was always trying to get the ball to either Ryan [Stokes] or Drew [Andrew Goralczyk]. I really think that we played better as a team," Enghofer said.



Junior  
 Allen Amiotelau

Junior Theofilos Makarounas

Junior  
 Brandon Brack

Senior Eric Herzog

Senior Ryan Stokes







Sophomore Sydney Harold



Sophomore  
Victoria Verdusco



Senior Mercedes Forsell



Sophomore  
Gabriela Ponce



Sophomore Jill Ross



Senior Danielle Ross



Focused on the ball, Senior Stopper Kelly Tarr (5) looks to advance down the field. Tarr felt that the team grew closer as the season progressed. "It's not just about winning. It's also about having fun and working hard," Tarr said.

Working to win the ball from West Lafayette's Maya Denton (14), Senior Forward Suzette Sanchez (10) looks to pass. "The season was difficult, but I will never regret playing for Merrillville and growing from the experience," Sanchez said. "I love the game of soccer and wouldn't even trade the pain I had from injuries," Sanchez added.



In an attempt to switch the field, Senior Midfielder Emulija Stojova (17) crosses the ball. "Our team lacked chemistry, but towards the end of the season, we started learning how to play as a team. Every person played and we united better on the field," Stojova said. Stojova will not be pursuing soccer in college so she can focus on her studies. "I have fallen in love with this sport. It's going to be hard giving it up," Stojova added.

### Girls' Soccer

| Opponent        | Score | W/L |
|-----------------|-------|-----|
| Andean Jamboree | 0-0   |     |
| Wheeler         | 0-0   | L   |
| Lake Central    | 3-0   | W   |
| LaPorte         | 5-0   | L   |
| Highland        | 5-1   | L   |
| Chesterton      | 7-2   | L   |
| Valparaiso      | 7-0   | L   |
| Andean          | 5-2   | L   |
| Michigan City   | 7-0   | L   |
| Griffith        | 7-2   | L   |
| West Lafayette  | 13-0  | L   |
| Crown Point     | 6-1   | L   |
| Munster         | 9-0   | L   |
| Lake Central    | 9-0   | L   |
| Hobart          | 3-1   | L   |
| Boone Grove     | 3-2   | L   |
| Portage         | 7-0   | L   |
| Sectional       |       |     |
| Crown Point     | 3-2   | L   |

DAC: 1-6  
OVERALL: 1-15

your soccer bag.  
what do you carry  
in your soccer bag?



Senior Danice Carbajal

- 1 hairspray
  - 2 i pod
  - 3 sports bras
  - 4 pre wrap
  - 5 little soccer ball
- for good luck



Advancing the ball, Sophomore Midfielder Maria Correa (21) looks to get to the opposing goal. "Before games I usually don't talk to anyone and listen to music," Correa said. "This being my first year at Merrillville, I felt that the team was very welcoming," Correa added. Merrillville was defeated by West Lafayette 13-0.

Concentrated on the ball, Sophomore Defender Daniella Carbajal (9) takes a goal kick across the field. "I enjoy playing defense because I am good at it, but at the same time I don't like it because of the pressure put on me," Carbajal said. Merrillville lost to Andean 5-2.







Sophomore  
Mya Mayfield

Junior  
Kaitlynn Sterkowicz

Junior Nicole Brindley



With a swinging motion, Junior Forward Nicole Brindley (3) sends a long pass down the field. "I feel the seniors have stepped up this year, although the scoreboard did not reflect our improvement as a team," Brindley said. She added that the team was able to set aside all drama, learn to play as a team and get closer off the field. Merrillville lost a close game to Boone Grove 3-2.

After losing the head coach and 11 seniors, the returning players from the girls' soccer team had to adjust to a new coach and many newcomers.

Team captains and their coach, MHS soccer player and state champion high jumper Ben Daniel, had what he said was "an opportunity to turn a team around."

"We were going to have to work our butts off, but if we put our

mind to it, we could do whatever we wanted," Junior Goalie Kaitlynn Sterkowicz said regarding her outlook on the upcoming season.

During summer conditioning, the team worked on fast foot work, "game-type running," such as long distance and sprint work, as well as weight training and ab workouts.

"Losing 11 players [most starters] has definitely hurt our team and losing [Coach Jeff] Fairbairn made it worse. With a new coach and without the seniors [of 2008] the environment was so different and it took some getting used to," Senior Midfielder Emilija Stojova said.

"New players had a hard time clicking with the girls from last year because we have all played together and become such close friends."

When the first game came around, "[we] stopped all the drama and started playing soccer," Senior Defender Kelly Tarr said.

They carried that attitude throughout the season.

"[I felt] proud of myself and my team," Sophomore Goalie Victoria

**"[I]f we put our mind to it,  
we could do  
whatever we wanted."  
Kaitlynn Sterkowicz**

# rock 'em.



friendship. witry. obstacles.

**Most Valuable**

Danica Carbasa



**Leadership**

Merrilee Jurski



**Most Improved**

Victoria Stojova



**Sportsmanship**

Maria Andreeva



Verduzco said after winning the first game of the season against LaPorte High School.

"The LaPorte game set the tone for the season," Senior Defender Ruby Maldonado said.

"A lot of us just wanted to give up and quit throughout the season, but the fun times we all have together and just being around each other is what got us through the rough season," Stojova said.

Keeping the girls focused was "not difficult" for Junior Varsity Coach Jason Kendera. "They [the girls] are more important [than me]. It's [the coaching] for them not me."

The team concluded the season with a 1-15 record with the win against LaPorte.

"We might not have had a winning record this season, but being with the girls every day made the whole season worth it," Stojova concluded.



Senior Danica Carbasa





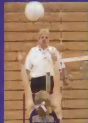
## volleyball vocab.



**Kill n.**  
Point awarded to the team that spikes the ball and the opposition cannot make a play.



**Ace n.**  
Point awarded to the server when the other team shanks the serve or the ball hits the floor without anyone touching it.



**Assist n.**  
Awarded when a player passes, sets or digs the ball to a teammate who attacks the ball for a kill.

**Pan n.**  
To join the arms from the elbows to the wrists and strike the ball with the fleshy part of the forearm in an underhand motion.



**Dig n.**  
To pass a ball that was spiked or rapidly hit.



With Senior Back Row Player Alyssa Brindley (5) blocking her up, Senior Back Row Player Alyssa Richmond (3) sets in position to pass the ball. "I don't think when I play, I have my mind so heavily in the game," Richmond said. The season did not turn out as the girls had hoped, but "we kept our heads up and stayed positive during the games and practices," Richmond added.

In attempt to make it perfect for her hitter, Senior Setter Melissa Warren (2) sets the ball to Freshman Middle Hitter Megan Dicken. Warren (9) has been playing volleyball for six years, and has played on the varsity team for three out of her four years playing in high school. Warren said she plans to play in college, but is undecided where.



"I better get on the court so I can see this point," Junior Right-side Hitter Corey Loudernilk (1) said to herself in the game against Crown Point. With Loudernilk's three years of high school volleyball experience under her belt, she brings intensity and determination with her to the court everyday. "When I get on the court, I feel accomplished because it's a symbol of how hard I work at practice," Loudernilk said.



## VOLLEYBALL

| Opponent                | Score | W/L |
|-------------------------|-------|-----|
| Griffith                | 3-2   | L   |
| Lowell                  | 3-0   | W   |
| LaPorte Tourny          |       | 4th |
| Andean                  | 3-2   | L   |
| Crown Point             | 3-1   | L   |
| Lake Central            | 3-1   | L   |
| Chesterton              | 3-0   | L   |
| Kankakee Valley Classic |       | 2nd |
| Valparaiso              | 3-1   | L   |
| LaPorte                 | 3-0   | L   |
| Madison City            | 3-1   | W   |
| Payson                  | 3-2   | L   |
| Crown Point             | 3-2   | L   |
| Lake Central            | 3-1   | L   |
| Crown Point Tourny      |       | 6th |
| Chesterton              | 3-0   | L   |
| Valparaiso              | 3-1   | W   |
| Terry White Invite      |       | 3rd |
| LaPorte                 | 3-0   | L   |
| Michigan City           | 3-0   | L   |
| Fortage                 | 3-0   | L   |
| Sectional               | 3-2   | L   |
| Michigan City           | 3-1   | W   |

DAC: 2-12  
OVERALL: 11-22



With arms extended high over the net, Senior Outside Hitter Tiffany Robertson (4) and Sophomore Middle Hitter Ashley Jamerson (6) go up for the block against Crown Point's Middle Hitter Natasha Vanziger (18). "When I get a block, it's unexplainable how I feel, other than being excited," Robertson said.

Senior Alyssa Brindley and Sophomore Ashley Jamerson

Junior Natalie Reichers

Varsity Team with Coach Mark Ciesielski

Senior Kelsey Barrick

Senior Tiffany Robertson



Throughout a season, teamwork is key in having any team together.

That being said, the girls' volleyball team may be one of the closest teams at Merrillville. According to Coach Mark Ciesielski and the team itself, the girls shared a unique bond throughout the season.

Working together with a positive outlook can do nothing but add to their success.

"This season the girls shared a particularly close bond. We had five great seniors who acted as leaders and brought us all closer together. They really kept us closely knit throughout the season," Coach Ciesielski said.

No matter how close, every team has moments when they don't see eye to eye.

"Of course there are times when we butt heads, but we all work it out. Especially when a match comes along, we come together and work as a whole," Senior Kelsey Barrick said.

"Every team has some drama, but as a team we are very strong because we have become so close," Senior Alyssa

Richmond said.

When they found out that there was a new coach this season, the girls were nervous. When they found that it was Coach Ciesielski, their fear disappeared.

"At first we were nervous because it was our senior year. That all changed when we found out that it was going to be our previous assistant coach because we were so excited," Richmond said.

"He has been our assistant coach forever, so the transition was easy because we all liked him," Barrick said.

Although it didn't turn out perfectly, the team is still content with the overall outcome.

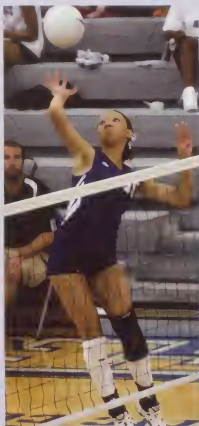
"All I wanted was for the girls to improve and they have definitely done that. This season was a valuable learning experience because the girls learned so much and worked as a team," Coach Ciesielski said.

"Overall we had a good season. We had a lot of fun, we grew as a team, and it went by so fast," Richmond said.



Senior Kelsey Barrick

As she gets her body low, Senior Back Row Player Alyssa Brindley (5) gets her arms into the passing angle. "It feels good knowing that you prevented the other team from getting a point," Brindley said after getting a dig in the game against Lake Central.



Lined up to hit, Freshman Outside Hitter Mackenzie Milon (10) attempts a kill against the Lake Central Indians. This year was her first year playing on the high school volleyball team. "I do the best I can in every game, otherwise I won't feel accomplished," Milon said. The team lost to Lake Central, 3-1.



Freshman Megan Dicken and Junior Ashley Jamerson  
Sophomore Corey Loudernilk  
Sophomore Ashley Jamerson  
Freshman Megan Dicken



dedication, leadership, passion.

Junior Kelsey Barrick  
Most Valuable



Junior Kelsey Barrick  
Leadership



Junior Kelsey Barrick  
Most Improved



Junior Kelsey Barrick  
Sportsmanship



Volleyball

set for success.



let's make  
some racket.



**Most Valuable**  
Leonard Mathews



**Leadership**  
Kenny Albee



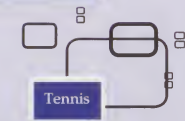
**Most Improved**  
Leonard Mathews



**Sportsmanship**  
Stephen Carnielli



Seniors Stephen Carnielli and  
Kenny Albee



The 2008-2009 boys' tennis team had many highlights throughout the season.

Many players, as well as Coach James Simon, said that beating Valparaiso was the biggest accomplishment of the season.

The team considered Valparaiso to be one of the toughest teams on the DAC.

"My most memorable moment was when we defeated Valparaiso,

**'I actually did not expect the season to go the way that it went. We actually did better than I thought we were going to do.'**  
Colin Burke

Mathews worked hard during the season to get the nickname



Junior James Brodie



Junior Colin  
Burke

Freshman  
Lugmann Ruth  
and Senior  
Nolan Mayers

With complete focus on the ball, No. 1 Singles Freshman Leonard Mathews returns the ball to the opposing team. Mathews has been playing tennis for nine years. "I plan to attend Ohio State and go pro," he said. "Overall we did well, could have done better at the end, but [I am] satisfied with the season," he said. Mathews completed the season with a near perfect record and is looking towards the future to advance in the state competition.



With arm extended back, No. 2 Doubles Senior Nolan Mayersky prepares to hit his signature forehand shot. Mayersky and his partner, No. 2 Doubles Freshman Lugmann Ruth, beat Hobart winning overall 4-1. "I the underclassmen: good luck and work hard," Mayersky said. As a fourth year player, Mayersky has faced many opponents and has proven his worth to the team making varsity for two consecutive years. He is undecided if he will play in college.

"Freshman Phenom."

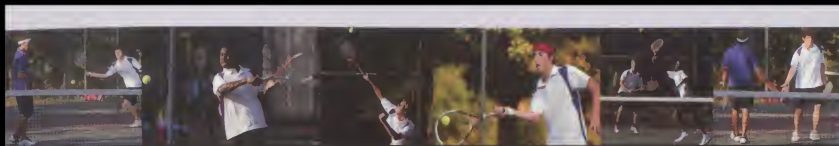
"I have been playing tennis for nine years," Mathews said.

The No. 1 doubles team Senior Kenny Albee and Stephen Carnielli advanced to semi-state.

Finishing the season with a 100% record, many players said they felt that they played well throughout the season.

"I actually did not expect the season to go the way that it went. We actually did better than I thought we were going to do," Junior Colin Burke said.





**Seniors**  
Stephen Carniello  
and Kenny Albee

**Freshman** Leonard Mathews

**Senior** Nolan Mayersky

**Junior** James Brodie

**Freshman**  
Luqmann Ruth  
and Senior Nolan  
Mayersky

**Seniors**  
Stephen Carniello and  
Kenny Albee



Reaching out for a forehand volley, No. 1 Doubles Senior Stephen Carniello returns the ball. Having played 11 years Carniello said, "This is my best season of high school tennis and it's still not over." Carniello and Senior Kenny Albee traveled to Indianapolis to play in the individual regional/semi-state and lost 6-1.



In the position to hit a backhand slice, No. 2 Singles Junior Cdm Burke returns the ball. "I look up to my dad. He played before me," Burke said. Although Burke fell short of his goal to win regionals, he said that overall the season was good.



Returning a serve, No. 1 Doubles Senior Kenny Albee scores a point for his doubles team. "Wanting to win and not wanting to let my partner down motivates me before I step out on the court," Albee said. "Coach Simon has helped me work on my skills in a better way throughout the season." Albee has been playing tennis for seven years and plans to continue playing for recreation.

Sprinting to the ball, No. 2 Doubles Freshman Luqmann Ruth keeps the rally going. "I saw Wimbledon, a tennis tournament on TV, that influenced me to play tennis," Ruth said. "I did really well this season. I made varsity and helped my team accomplish our goals."



## Q & A with Kyle Papp

**Q:** What is your favorite tennis racket?  
**A:** I use Head rackets because I received it as a gift.

**Q:** What is your favorite tennis string?  
**A:** I have extra tennis strings and an ipod in my bag.

**Q:** How long have you been playing tennis?  
**A:** I have played six years. I began playing because I went to a summer camp with my cousins and I liked the game.

**Q:** Who is your favorite tennis player?  
**A:** Rafael Nadal

## BOYS' TENNIS

| Opponent               | Score | W/L |
|------------------------|-------|-----|
| Highland               | 4-1   | W   |
| Wheeler                | 4-1   | W   |
| Noblesville Tournament |       | 3rd |
| Michigan City          | 5-4   | W   |
| Chesterton             | 3-2   | W   |
| Lake Central           | 2-3   | L   |
| Valparaiso             | 3-2   | W   |
| Crown Point            | 2-3   | L   |
| LaPorte                | 2-3   | L   |
| MHS Invitational       |       | 3rd |
| Hobart                 | 4-1   | W   |
| Portage                | 4-1   | W   |
| Lowell                 | 5-0   | W   |
| Monterey               | 0-5   | L   |
| Sectionals             |       | 1st |

DAC: 4-3  
OVERALL: 9-6



Sophomore Kyle Schroeder



The boys' and girls' cross-country teams have lost many runners and are considerably small in size.

"The low numbers affects the team in a way that if someone gets sick, we don't have people to replace them. It affects the depth of our team," Coach Michael Hoffman said.

Lack of participation affects how the girls' and boys' cross country teams run as a whole. After losing a girl due to an injury, only two girls remained.

As if the team was not small enough before, many runners

graduated last year leaving the team with even fewer runners.

"On the boy's side we lost four [runners]. They were the top four runners and it was a big hit," Coach Hoffman said.

Small as the team was, the girls' seemed to do just fine.

"I am very confident in my ability to do my best, and I set my expectations high for myself," Senior Kate Tarr said.

The boys' cross country team is

substantially larger, having a total of 12 runners.

"On a good day, I am pretty confident. Sometimes the terrain makes me feel a little unconfident

but otherwise, I always give my best," Senior Markey Baldwin said.

The coaches plan to recruit as many girls as possible for next year's team.

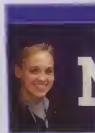
"Me and Coach

Crawn are going to get more girls. This is our main goal for next year. Coach Hoffman said.

## Cross Country



Jacob Chadwick &  
Kate Tarr  
Most Valuable



Kate Tarr  
Leadership



Kyle Schroeder  
Most Improved



Francis Dusik &  
Ava Meux  
Sportsmanship

tolerance. spirit. focus.

Driven by the feeling of having "accomplished something," Senior Kate Tarr said that's how she feels after a "good race." Tarr was the only girls' cross country runner to advance beyond sectionals all the way to semi-state where she finished in 29th place.

Keeping up the tempo, Senior Milton Davis races for the finish line. Davis has been running cross country for two years and believes that the team has done fairly well this year. "I run for the challenge. To see how hard I [can] push myself," Davis said. With this being Davis' last year, his advice for next year's team is to continue working hard.



Her favorite part about running cross country is "the feeling you get when you improve," Ava Meux said. Meux decided to run cross country because she ran track her freshman year and "wanted to continue running."



pace  
yourself.



Sophomore Francis Dusik

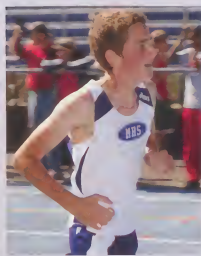
Sophomore  
Kevin Caruana

Sophomore  
Tyrone Brazan



To prepare for a race, Sophomore Kevin Carnana runs right, stretches and "gets in the zone." Carnana has been running cross country for two years. "I enjoy running," Carnana said. He finished 11th at the Highland Invite.

Extended from the competition, Freshman Adam Serowacki runs to complete the race. This is Serowacki's first year running on the high school cross-country team. "I liked it a lot. It was a good experience," Serowacki said. He plans on running for the cross-country team throughout high school.



While running the race, Sophomore Jacob Caddick said that all he thinks about is "passing the guy in front of me." He placed 39th at sectionals and was the only boys' cross country runner to advance to regionals where he placed 28th.



In his pre-game pep talk, Coach Michael Hoffman discusses with the team what they wish to accomplish at the Highland Invite. "The team is very young this year and they have come along quite well," Coach Hoffman said. At the Highland Invite, Merrillville placed 11th out of 19 with a score of 272.



## CROSS COUNTRY

| Opponent      | Score | W/L        |
|---------------|-------|------------|
| Hammond Gavit | 234   | 8th Place  |
| Michigan City | 15-50 | W          |
| Valparaiso    | 16-43 | W          |
| T.F. South    | 196   | 7th Place  |
| Crown Point   | 15-50 | W          |
| Rensselaer    |       | 10th Place |
| Lake Central  | 15-50 | W          |
| LaPorte       | 15-50 | W          |
| New Prairie   |       | 10th Place |
| Chesterton    | 15-50 | W          |
| Portage       | 15-41 | W          |
| Highland      | 272   | 11th Place |
| DAC           | 242   | 8th Place  |
| Sectionals    | 174   | 6th Place  |

DAC: 5-0  
OVERALL: 7-14

## Q & A with Tyrone Brown.



**A:** What runs through my head is that I have to stay focused and keep a steady pace.

**A:** I stretch, and tell myself to "race not just run", and that "there's nothing too big that I can not overcome."

**A:** I get as much work done that I can during school so that I won't have as much work to do after practice or meets.

**A:** I immediately know that I gave my all and I did the best that I could.

Senior  
Ava Meux

Senior Milton Davis

Senior Ava Meux

Senior Kate Tarr

Sophomore  
Jacob Caddick

Senior Kate Tarr







Junior Sarah Martin

Sophomore  
Kelsey Washburn

Senior Erin Marek

Junior  
Alexis Connolly

Senior Kelly Sarsfield

Senior Erin Marek



As anticipation mounts, Sophomore Kelsey Washburn lines up her putt. "Putting is not really one of my strong points, but if I concentrate and focus I usually do better," Washburn said. "That is the reason that I line up my putts, it helps me slow down and take the time to aim," Washburn added. Washburn played regularly at the number five position, filling up the last varsity spot.



## GOLF

| Opponent            | Score       | W/L |
|---------------------|-------------|-----|
| Hobart Invite       | 191-220-260 | W/L |
| Boone Grove         | 210-240     | L   |
| Rensselaer          | 210-244     | L   |
| DAC                 |             | 7th |
| Highland /Clark Tri | 214-240-265 | W   |
| Chesterton          | 181-261     | L   |
| Lowell              | 194-214     | L   |
| Michigan City       | 213-262     | W   |
| Munster             | 181-214     | L   |
| Crown Point         | 200-207     | W   |
| Valparaiso          | 204-258     | L   |
| Lake Central        | 178-234     | L   |
| Clark/ Hobart Tri   | 191-222     | L   |
| Portage             | 195-240     | L   |
| LaPorte             | 211-214     | W   |

DAC: 3-4

OVERALL: 10-3

what club do  
you need?



Driver- Used  
to hit the ball  
the first time.  
This club is the  
strongest of all  
the other clubs.



3 wood- Used  
on the fairway  
wood. It sends  
the ball far.



Putter-  
This club is  
used for short  
distance when  
the ball is on  
the green.



9 iron- These  
clubs range  
from 6 to 9.  
The lower the  
number the  
farther it  
will go.



Swinging down to chip the ball, Junior Sarah Martin shoots a high flyer.

"The chemistry of the team absolutely played a part on my playing. This year was good. We did better as individuals, but even more as a team. We won double the matches of last year, and completed plenty of our goals," Martin said. Martin advanced to regionals, where she scored 113.

Watching her putt go to the hole, Junior Captain Alexis Connolly waits for the ball to drop. Connolly flexed between positions one and two. "When I step onto the golf course I try to think positive, like today is going to be a good day," Connolly said. She advanced to the regionals and scored a 99.



Unlike most girls, Senior Erin Marek uses her 4 iron to drive her ball. "I'm not to accurate with my driver, so I decided with the help of Coach Hinkel to use my 4 iron. It was a benefit for me of course, but it also dropped my score which ended up helping my team," Marek said.



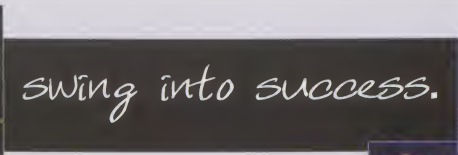




Junior Sarah Martin



Sophomore  
Kelsey Washburn



Junior Alexis Connelly

swing into success.



Playing as a unit in the practice scramble, the girls' golf team places their putts. "Since there is no drama on the team between any players, it gives you more confidence in yourself and your teammates," Junior Alexis Connelly said. "Knowing your team supports you and that they are there for you gives the team a unity that most others don't have. It's easier to be connected with each other since there are only seven girls on the team," Sophomore Kelsey Washburn said.



Watching her drive fly down the fairway, Senior Captain Kelly Sarsfield uses her driver to crush the ball. "Driving is definitely my strength. I've gotten a lot better at not slicing or hooking. Most of my drives are straight down the fairway," Sarsfield said.

**'Athletes must possess a desire to do better. Coaching plays a small role.'**  
Coach Dave Hinkel

Having little prior high school golf experience didn't keep the 2008 team from excelling.

The girls have proved themselves by beating three DAC teams, something no team has done since the 1999-2000 season. The biggest win came over long-time rival, Crown Point.

"The Crown Point team had a lot of reputation. Everyone knows that they are a good team, so we were nervous. But we had home course advantage and we beat them 200 Merrillville to 207 Crown Point," Senior Kelly Sarsfield said.

Not only did the team achieve its goals as a whole, but also

achieved goals individually. Two girls advanced to regionals: Juniors Alexis Connelly and Sarah Martin.

"Both played the best they did all year. They both peaked at the right time. Although, they were a stroke behind other schools, I'm proud. We measure our success by how we progress through the year," Coach Dave Hinkel said.

As the only seniors, Erin Marek and Sarsfield had to rise to the occasion and lead the team. Both played different roles to keep the girls' chemistry from having an adverse reaction.

"Kelly was a competitor. She allowed a competitive edge. Erin

patience. integrity. commitment.

**Most Valuable**  
Alexis Connelly



**Leadership**  
Erin Marek



**Most Improved**  
Sarah Martin



**Sportmanship**  
Kelly Sarsfield



was the stability we need. She was a sensible leader," Coach Hinkel said.

"Athletes must possess a desire to do better," said Coach Hinkel, "Coaching plays a small role [in success]. [This season, the girls] experienced some success, liked it, and worked to get more."

Although the team may have not achieved a perfect season, the team achieved a lot in comparison to previous seasons.

"This year our team pulled together to achieve the most accomplished in a while," Sarsfield said proud of the team's achievements.





### Boys' Varsity Soccer

Coach Brian Past

Front row: Marco Arroyo, Theophilus Makarounas, Brandon Brack, Ryan Stokas, Nicolas Mojica; Second row: Walter Barcanas, Steven Guzek, Desmond Jones, Brandon Taylor, Michael Enghofer, Keith Wachter, Antonio Carbajal, Daniel Rios; Back row: Coach Brad Daniel, Allen Amtoelau, Andrew Goralczyk, Tyler Roark, Coach Brian Past, James Ooms, Eric Herzog, Romeo Harper, Coach Rick Hurey.



### Boys' Junior Varsity Soccer

Coach Rick Hurey

Front row: Anthony Angotti, Abraham Garcia, Javier Avalos, Christopher Stojanovski, Keith Yockey, Victor Naeata, Holland Earl; Second row: Paxton Berlanga, Kyle Jones, Ian Fultz, Irving Moreno, Benjamin Kepchar, Ajay Patel, Frank Trains; Back row: Coach Brad Daniel, Julius Cameron, Messay Crawford-Taylor, Coach Brian Past, Juan Hernandez, Juan Ayala, Coach Rick Hurey.



### Freshman Volleyball

Coach Amanda Marrs

Front row: Kharl Coker, Inesha Smith, Paris Courtney; Second row: Kaleena Breitzinger, Spree Lang, Patricia Spikes, Lauren Blackwall, Leticia Oniveros; Back row: Rasheeda Robinson, Nakel McClinton, Coach Amanda Marrs, Mia Patikas, Alejandra Mata.



### Girls' Varsity Soccer

Coach Ben Daniel

Front row: Daniella Carbajal, Kaitlynn Sterkowitz, Eleni Kazonis, Victoria Verdusco, Danice Carabajal; Second row: Nicole Brindley, Kelly Tarr, Ariel Valenzuela, Mercedes Forsell, Danielle Bly, Suzette Sanchez; Back row: Coach Tammy Deel, Jetticia Rivera, Sydney Harold, Coach Ben Daniel, Emilija Stojova, Jill Ross, Coach Jason Kendera.



### Girls' Junior Varsity Soccer

Coach Jason Kendera

Front row: Kiara Hay, Kaitlynn Sterkowitz, Mya Mayfield; Second row: Aaliyah Edwards, Ashayna Price, V'Lemia Curry, Paulina Laorden, Miranda Stewart; Back row: Coach Tammy Deel, Alexandra Domoras, Coach Ben Daniel, Morgan Orosz, Coach Jason Kendera.



### Junior Varsity Volleyball

Coach Luke Starkey

Front row: Salina Flores, Laryssa Barrera, Jordann Matthews, Kelsey Sajdera, Treasura Sowell; Back row: Emily Kurczynski, Kalle Domickaitis, Coach Luke Starkey, Kayla Wiggins, Amanda Banashak.



### Boys' Varsity Tennis

Coach James Simon

Front row: Leonard Mathews, Lugman Ruth, Jamal Danzy, Najeb Arifee, Kyle Papp, Tyler Shockey, Brandon Shea, Monsoor Arifee; Back row: Stephen Camiello, Kenny Albee, Kenneth Walsh, Nolan Mayersky, Colin Burke, James Brodie.



### Girls' Golf

Coach Dave Hinkel

Front row: Lauren Camiello, Alexis Connelly, Patricia Millard, Sarah Martin; Back row: Kelly Sarfield, Erin Marek, Kelsey Washburn.



### Varsity Volleyball

Coach Mark Ciesielski

Front row: Alyssa Richmond, Emily Kurczynski, Kelsey Barrick, Megan Dicken, Natalie Riechers, Korey Loddemilk, Alyssa Brindley; Second row: Coach Linda Wilson, Tiffany Robertson, Ashley Jamerson, Coach Mark Ciesielski, Mackenzie Milon, Melissa Warren, Coach Luke Starkey.



fall



### Freshman Football

Coach Mark Reid Sr.

Front row: Bruce Brown, Darryl Peppers, Frank Jefferson, Kevin Meachum, Jordan Polk, Luis Padilla, Michael Jones, Johnna Maffett, John Cooper, Adel Issa; Second row: Antonio Foley, Logan Hubbard, Gregory Brousseau, Travis Norman, Michael Nickson, Peter Berlanga, Ian Black, Tyler Kapchar, Benjamin Juliet, Bruce Brown Jr.; Third row: Jarel Cole, Brian Walker, Varchon DeBrossart, Kourtney Berry, Jacob Jara, Attwood Duncan, William Isabell, Anthony Luckatt, James Joiner, Michael Dioken; Back row: Coach Chris Richardson, Coach Mark Reid Sr., Alonzo Charles, Adrian Robinson, Cortez Simms, Brandon Spencer, Anthony Disco, Elbryn Goode, Paul Carey, Camaron Grundy, Timothy Colomb, John Mosley, Coach Mark Reid Jr.



### Varsity Football

Coach Zac Wells

Front row: Phil Hays, Eric Black, John Cooper, Nicholas Vibanco, Payton Parker, Marcus Howard, Eduardo DeLuna, Danial Burns, Jurreae Jones; Second row: Manager Branda Roy, Daryl Peppers, Johnathan Jordan, Michael Gillis, James Stewart, Dominique Gray, Jarany Velosky, Robert Robinson, Derek Taylor, Manager Xochitl Logan; Third row: Manager Hannah Webster, Rahim Cawell, Daniel Pierce, Dallas Wilson, Giovanni Jenkins, Joseph Blockson, Keith Pavlish, Elliot Parker, Robbie Jordan, Karla Reed-Latkar, Manager Mariah Portis; Fourth row: Ronald Landrum, Anthony DiGangi, Adonis Madry, Jory Cunningham, Andrew Appleton, Kortney Berry, Gregory Sanders, Cameron Mitchell, Eric Davis, Floyd Bailey; Fifth row: James Manis, Jamal Jackson, Michael Enghofer, Keon Jones, Aaron Fitts, Christopher Stokes, Ryan Stokes, Donald Cox, Elbryn Goode, Louis Craig, Joshua Liddell; Sixth row: Martin Flores, Perry Ward, Michael Joiner, Cody Niles, Valanti Atsas, Anthony Disco, Arrell Rose-Williams, Paul Carey, Keith Thomas, Landau Lang; Seventh row: Ryan Strick, Derrick Hutton-Kinsley, Carlos Dickerson, Zachary Rasopovich, Derrin Woodson, Hugo Hemmen, Joseph Sapukveda, James Travis, Kelly Wiggins; Eighth row: Dolapo Macarthy, Aaron Kaczmarek, Janvas Wilderness, Christian Beezhold, Joseph Nalson, Mathew Neal, LaChapelle Bradley, Lawrence Scroggins, Brian West, Keith Dockery; Back row: Trainer Sue Hayes, Coach Mark Reid Jr., Coach Mark Reid Sr., Coach Derek Thompson, Coach Zach Silwa, Coach Zac Wells, Coach Jake Stafford, Coach Joe Atria, Coach Chris Richardson, Coach Mark Schellinger, Coach Jeff Eaton, Trainer Sean Hudson.



### Boys' Cross Country

Coach Michael Hoffman

Front row: Milton Davis, Corey Weatherspoon, Kevin Caruana, Jacob Caddick, Adam Sarwacki, Francis Duak; Back row: Coach Aaron Crawn, Tyrone Brown, Harold Tumar, James Wright, Eliza Samuels, Kyle Schroeder, Coach Michael Hoffman.



### Girls' Cross Country

Coach Michael Hoffman

Front row: Coach Aaron Crawn, Cristan Washington, Ashley Powell, Kate Tarr, Olshiana Doss, Ava Maux, Coach Michael Hoffman.

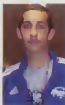


### Junior Varsity Cheerleaders

Coach Kim Naspinski

Front row: Bianca Portie, Morgan Taylor; Second row: Jazmin Griffin, Danae Baskin, Jazmyne Thomas; Back row: Kayla Greene, Jaamine Washington.

sports.





## senior giants.

| Opponent      | Score | W/L |
|---------------|-------|-----|
| Lebanon       | 67-52 | W   |
| Highland      | 74-30 | W   |
| Chesterton    | 52-44 | W   |
| LaPorte       | 58-55 | L   |
| Andean        | 70-54 | W   |
| Michigan City | 64-53 | W   |
| Lake Central  | 58-46 | L   |
| Crown Point   | 48-47 | W   |
| Valparaiso    | 54-40 | L   |
| Portage       | 58-51 | W   |
| LaPorte       | 77-81 | W   |
| Lake Central  | 51-41 | L   |
| Michigan City | 79-60 | W   |
| Lowell        | 71-46 | W   |
| Crown Point   | 63-54 | L   |
| Munster       | 58-49 | W   |
| Chesterton    | 59-38 | W   |
| Valparaiso    | 53-41 | W   |
| Hobart        | 77-14 | W   |
| Portage       | 80-30 | W   |
| Sectional     |       |     |
| Portage       | 76-54 | W   |
| Valparaiso    | 48-43 | L   |

DAC: 9.5  
OVERALL: 16-6

### BOYS' BASKETBALL



#44

**Player:** Jonathan Nuwamunu  
**Position:** Center  
**Nick name:** Nunu  
**Years playing:** 12  
**Role model:** grandmother



#52

**Player:** Ryan Smith  
**Position:** Forward  
**Nick name:** Ryo  
**Years playing:** 9  
**Role model:** grandmother

**Player:** #24

**Dolapo MacCarthy**  
**Position:** Small Forward  
**Nick name:** Mac  
**Years playing:** 13  
**Role model:** Coach Zac Wells



As he puts the ball up for a two-pointer, Sophomore point guard Brandon Clark (10) clears his mind and focuses so that he can make the shot. "I wish I could've played better so that my team could win sectionals," Clark said. He had the most assists and steals and the best 3 point percentage during the season. Clark says that the high point of the season was the victory over undefeated Munster.



Determined to get to the hoop and score, Junior forward Darius Stevens (34) dribbles across the court. "We came together in teamwork towards the end. We didn't do as well as we would've liked, but it was still a fun experience overall," Stevens said. Stevens was a leading scorer in many of the games.



"I did well as far as leading the team. I played my part as a senior in getting the team to come together," Senior forward Jonathan Nuwamunu (44) said. While evading Crown Point player Nathaniel Ackers (35), Nuwamunu searches for a teammate to pass the ball. He led the team with 91 field goals this season.



Senior Rayon Lewis

Senior Jonathan Nuwamunu

Senior Dolapo MacCarthy

Junior Darius Stevens

Sophomore Brandon Clark

Sophomore Jeremiah Jones





The boys' varsity basketball team exceeded expectations this year. On February 7, Merrillville accomplished the unexpected when they defeated the state ranked, undefeated Munster Mustangs.

"It was a big win for us. It was a confidence booster and shows that we're a contender," said Sophomore shooting guard Jeremiah Jones. "It felt good giving them their only loss," Sophomore point guard Brandon Clark added.

During the regular season the Merrillville bench watches closely, along with Head Coach Jim East and Assistant Coach T. J. Lux. Senior Center Ryan Smith said his favorite moment during the season was during the Crown Point game when he junked the ball. Smith tied with Sophomore Jeremiah Jones for the most free throws made, and he holds the seasons record for the most rebounds, with 61 offensive and 84 defensive.



Junior Darius Stevens and Seniors Rayon Lewis and Dolapo MacCarthy

Senior Ryan Smith

Senior Rico Spikes

Sophomore Tokumbo Fashawe and Junior Darius Stevens



Pirates had a record of 15-5 and a record of 9-5 in the D.A.C.

"Our goal was to win the DAC," Jones said. The Pirates defeated Portage in the first round of sectionals, but lost in their second game against Valparaiso.

During the season, head coach Jim East was recognized for his 600th win. East's record in 47 years of coaching basketball is 612-321.

"I was happy for him and glad to be a part of history," Clark said.

Although the Pirates have had a

Adding points to the scoreboard, Sophomore shooting guard Jeremiah Jones (22) shoots a jump shot. "I try to play as hard as I can. Whatever Coach East needs me to do, whether it's scoring, playing defense or getting the rest of my team involved, I do it," Jones said. He holds the season record for the best point average, 10.8, most free throws made, 45, and the most points made, which was 226.



standout season, three key players are graduating this year, but have big plans for their futures.

Senior centers Jonathan Nwannunu and Ryan Smith are still deciding on colleges but want to continue to play basketball in college.

"The hardest change is the level of play because it is faster in college," Smith said. Smith plans to play basketball overseas and ultimately coach.

Also graduating this year, Senior small forward Dolapo MacCarthy has decided not to play basketball in college, but still wants to play college football.

"I think this has been one of my better basketball seasons," MacCarthy said.



Senior Ryan Smith

Jonathan Nwannunu

Most Valuable



Brandon Clark

Most Improved



Dolapo MacCarthy

Mental Attitude



defy. energy. influence.

exceeding expectations.



through trials  
and triumphs.



### Most Valuable

Tierra Turner



### Leadership

Ashley Dorecki



### Most Improved

Ismynne Miller



### Sportsmanship

Ismynne Wade

struggle. chemistry. hardship.



Senior Tierra Turner

Sophomore  
Melanee Stubbs

Junior  
Bryonna Davis

While driving the ball to the net, Junior point guard Latoi Merriweather (10) makes the shot contributing to the win over Michigan City with the score of 79-70. Merriweather believes that the team needs more chemistry with one another on the court. "The chemistry off the court was good, but it could have been better on the court," Merriweather said.



While Lake Central's Kaley Marcink (23) and Ashley Dorecki (10) follow her, Senior shooting guard and forward Tierra Turner (24) gets a fast break away. Merrillville was defeated by Lake Central in triple overtime, 76-72. Since Turner is the only senior on the team, she left some advice for the team of the upcoming season. "Don't ever give up. Play hard and work hard," Turner said.

Junior Bryonna Davis

Compared to previous years, the girls' basketball team had a unique composition, having only one senior on the team.

"It was stressful because one senior can't do everything, so we had to step up and take on some leadership too," Junior point guard Latoi Merriweather said.

The team started the season off strong; however, with injuries and low fan turn outs, having a positive mindset was difficult at times.

The team lost its focus when Senior shooting guard and forward Tierra Turner tore her ACL, ending her season. Turner was injured January 20, during the Hobart game.

"At first my knee popped once

when I came down from a rebound. I went back to the training room to get it checked out and everything seemed fine, so I went back in the game. Then I went up for a jump shot and when I came down, my

**'We had to step up and  
take on some  
leadership too.'  
Latoi Merriweather**

knee popped twice. After I found out I had torn my ACL," Turner said.

Getting news of a severe injury is always difficult news for an athlete to cope with.

"I was depressed, sad and mad," Turner said. "I also played a major role, so the team lost focus after that."

The girls started the season off with the goal of winning sectionals. They came short of their goal, losing to Hobart in the first round of sectionals 59-36.

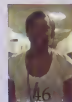
"Our hard work and dedication paid off in the beginning, but we lost it at the end," Merriweather said.

Throughout the season, the team stayed very close.

"Coming back next year, we will have the same team, so we will be even closer," Sophomore guard and forward Melanee Stubbs said.



Basketball





Freshman  
Raveen Murray

Junior Latol Merriweather

Junior Lydia Hawkins

Senior Tierra Turner

Senior Tierra Turner

Junior Latol Merriweather



Fighting to get past Lake Central's defenders, Sophomore forward Melanee Stubbs (21) drives the ball down the court. Stubbs believes that if the girls play hard and give their all every game, next year should be a good season for them. "This season did not quite reach our expectations and I hope next year will be better," Stubbs said.



During the game against the Crown Point Bulldogs, Freshman point guard Raveen Murray (14) goes up to make a shot. "Going into sectionals I felt confident, but I don't know what happened. I guess we weren't quite ready," Murray said.

In the game against Lake Central, Junior point guard and shooting guard Bryonna Davis (22) smiles and consults with Coach Amy Gervet. "I believe if we played more as a team we could have went further than what we did," Davis said.



Shooting the basket, Junior forward and center Lydia Hawkins (30) scores against Michigan City. "I feel like it was a throw-away season because we just so many games and played with no intensity," Hawkins said.



what's in your bag?



- 1 ankle braces
- 2 warm up gear
- 3 P.S.P.
- 4 extra shirts
- 5 basketball shoes

#### GIRLS' BASKETBALL

| Opponent      | Score | W/L |
|---------------|-------|-----|
| Highland      | 64-50 | W   |
| Andean        | 48-40 | W   |
| Valparaiso    | 77-61 | L   |
| E.C. Central  | 56-47 | W   |
| Portage       | 46-30 | L   |
| Chesterton    | 60-55 | L   |
| LaPorte       | 64-39 | W   |
| Michigan City | 79-70 | W   |
| Lake Central  | 76-72 | L   |
| Minster       | 45-42 | L   |
| Crown Point   | 58-46 | L   |
| Valparaiso    | 63-52 | W   |
| Portage       | 57-47 | W   |
| Laovell       | 61-20 | W   |
| LaPorte       | 68-49 | W   |
| Hobart        | 57-55 | W   |
| Lake Central  | 76-46 | L   |
| Chesterton    | 74-66 | L   |
| Michigan City | 75-39 | L   |
| Crown Point   | 54-40 | L   |
| Sectional     |       |     |
| Hobart        | 59-36 | L   |

DAC: 4-9  
OVERALL: 10-10



## Wrestling

After a phenomenal season record last year, the varsity boys' wrestling team had a lot to live up to. The team lost many varsity starters to graduation, but that did not stop their motivation.

"The team acts as one. There is not just one person who stands out above the rest. The entire team works together to encourage each other and support each other," Junior Frankie Valdivia said.

Although the team did not raise their record from last year, they still

sent four of their wrestlers to state: Juniors Zachary Stevens, Anthony Napules, and James Travis, along with Senior Keon Jones.

**'The team acts as one.'**

**Frankie Valdivia**

"We all did exceptionally well. I expected to get at least first or

second, but I ended up with fourth. Zac placed fourth and James 'Jimbo' placed fifth," Jones said.

It was a tough season for the boys trying to maintain weight and qualify in more weight classes than they did in the past.

"Trying to maintain your weight is hard. After season we just pig out. During season, though, we help each other and keep each other on track with what and how much we eat," Senior Robbie Jordan said.

Senior William Costakis



In his first year wrestling varsity, Junior Martin Flores stares down his 215 pound opponent. "Wrestling is a lot of fun," Flores said, "but it is sometimes hard trying to control what I eat all the time." Flores said he wants to finish his high school career by wrestling all four years and hopes to advance to the state finals his senior year.

Taking down his opponent, Senior Darrius Richmond goes on to win his 140-pound match. Richmond has been wrestling since the fifth grade and got started when a friend encouraged him to try it out. Richmond finished this season with a record of 30-5.



**Keon Jones**  
**Most Valuable**



**Anthony Napules**  
**Leadership**



**James Travis**  
**Most Improved**



**Zachary Stevens**  
**Sportsmanship**

*muscle. concentration. power.*

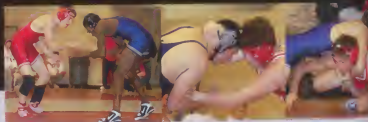


*weighing in.*

Senior Keon Jones

Junior Martin Flores

Senior William Costakis





In an attempt to gain control of the match, Junior Anthony Naples tries to make an escape. "Before every match, I wrestle free to warm up and get all the bugs out," Naples said. Naples has been wrestling for 11 years and finished the season with a record of 40-5.



With a tight grip on his opponent, Senior Robbie Jordan tries to defeat rival Crown Point. "A fun way for me to make weight is to play Rockband with a lot of clothes on," Jordan said. This was Jordan's second year wrestling.



Attempting a reversal, Senior Keon Jones goes for a quick two points. Jones relied on his speed and agility to earn a 39-6 record and become a state qualifier. "If I can get a scholarship I would definitely love to wrestle in college," Jones said.

## wrestling scoring.

Point  
Value



**near fall:** one wrestler exposes the other wrestler's back past a 90° angle towards the mat for a 3 to 5 second count



**takedown:** from a standing position, one wrestler brings his opponent to the floor

**reversal:** the wrestler who is on the bottom flips his opponent, and becomes the wrestler on top, gaining control

**escape:** the wrestler who is on the bottom gets away from his opponent

| Opponent             | Score | W/L       |
|----------------------|-------|-----------|
| LaPorte Duals        |       | 1st Place |
| LaPorte              | 67-9  | W         |
| Hammmond             | 84-0  | W         |
| Culver               | 67-0  | W         |
| SB Clay              | 68-12 | W         |
| Elkhart              | 53-17 | W         |
| Valparaiso           | 57-24 | W         |
| Portage              | 30-24 | W         |
| Tom Cameron Invite   |       | 1st Place |
| KV                   | 52-18 | W         |
| Northwood            | 62-12 | W         |
| Boone Grove          | 76-6  | W         |
| W. Lafayette         | 73-6  | W         |
| Laf. Harrison        | 51-12 | W         |
| Crown Point          | 36-39 | L         |
| Ryan End. Tournament |       | 1st Place |
| Missaukee Tournament |       | 4th Place |
| Chesterlon           | 38-12 | W         |
| Gate Way Duals       |       | 2nd Place |
| St. Genevieve        | 5-15  | W         |
| Hammond              | 66-17 | W         |
| Mater Dei            | 39-18 | L         |
| Warren Central       | 69-12 | W         |
| Farmington           | 42-39 | W         |
| DAC                  |       | 2nd Place |
| Lake Central         | 58-6  | W         |
| Michigan City        | 63-9  | W         |
| Individual Sectional |       | 1st Place |
| Team Regional Dual   |       |           |
| Crown Point          | 34-20 | L         |

DAC: 6-1  
OVERALL: 19-3

## WRESTLING

With arms locked, Freshman Courtney Berry tries to overpower his opponent. "My mom was actually the one who got me started in wrestling," Berry said. Berry plans on wrestling varsity all four years of high school.



Junior Frankie Valdivia

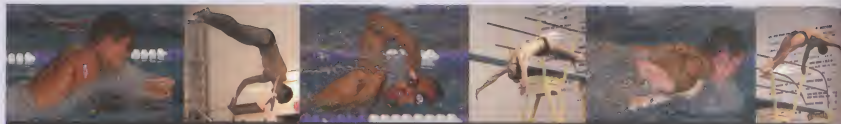
Senior Darrius Richmond

Senior Darrius Richmond

Junior Zachary Stevens

Senior Darrius Richmond





Sophomore Jacob Cudlick

Senior Dan Rios

Sophomore Autry Phillips

Sophomore Alexander Matthews

Senior Jacob Pavel

Junior Juan Rivera



Taking a deep breath and pushing himself to the finish, Junior Colin Burke competes in the 100-yard butterfly. Although Burke's signature stroke is the backstroke, he also competed in other individual events. "My strongest event is the 100 backstroke, but I also do the 100 butterfly and some of the relays," Burke said. Burke said he hopes to be a state finalist in the 100-yard backstroke.



| BOYS' SWIMMING & DIVING |        |     |
|-------------------------|--------|-----|
| Opponent                | Score  | W/L |
| Portage                 | 107-74 | L   |
| Rensselaer              | 103-79 | L   |
| Lake Central            | 134-52 | L   |
| Highland                | 94-91  | L   |
| Hobart                  | 124-48 | W   |
| Crown Point             | 123-60 | L   |
| Griffith                | 123-61 | W   |
| Lowell                  | 90-86  | W   |
| Valparaiso              | 140-46 | L   |
| Kankakee Valley         | 129-66 | W   |
| Michigan City           | 95-90  | L   |
| LaPorte                 | 102-84 | L   |
| Munster                 | 138-48 | L   |
| Wheeler                 | 113-69 | W   |
| Chesterton              | 123-62 | L   |
| DAC                     | 116    | 8th |
| Sectionals              | 71     | 6th |

DAC: 0-7  
OVERALL: 5-10



*tp tradition.*

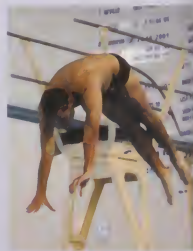
"TPing is a tradition. The guys will get the girls and the girls will get the guys."  
-Nicholas Wolak

"We used 24 rolls of toilet paper on Michelle Ross's house. We also had a stop sign, two street signs, a shopping cart, two bags of shredded paper, two recycling bins, a bag of trash that we dumped in her front yard, and we Saran wrapped her front porch so they couldn't get out of their front door."  
-Michael Sandridge



Spotting his entry on a reverse dive pike, Senior Dan Rios remains calm on his fall toward the water. There are many aspects of diving that influenced his drive. "I think the reason I love diving so much is the adrenaline when you're up in the air trying so hard not to come down on your stomach or back. It really makes you focus in on what you have to do," Rios said. Rios plans to continue diving, even if he does not compete on a college level.

Opening up to rip an entry, Junior Juan Rivera performs a forward one-and-a-half somersault. Rivera has been a diver for three years and plans on stepping up next year with some friendly competition between his teammates. "My people to beat would have to be Matthews and Blaylock, because I can't let an underclassman beat me," Rivera said. Rivera finished his third year diving, placing 11th at sectionals. He hopes to continue to improve next year.



# dedication to swimming and diving.



Sophomore  
Alexander Matthews

Junior Juan Rivera

Senior Nicholas Wolak



Swimming hard and taking a breath, Senior Nicholas Wolak swims backstroke in the 200 yard medley relay. His experience on the swim team was a fun one throughout his four years. "I think when we went to Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis that was really fun. It was a cool experience swimming in an Olympic pool," Wolak said. Wolak does not plan on swimming in the future for competition.



Attempting to place first, Junior Jonathan Harmon competes in the 50 yard freestyle. "My advice to future swimmers is to keep working hard and never quit," Harmon said. Harmon hopes to drop even more off his times for his senior season.

to fill up events," Sophomore diver Darren Blaylock said.

Blaylock often had to swim in relays because the team lacked one or two people to make up a second relay.

**'Swimming and diving take real dedication.'**  
Jacob Pavel

Lacking participants put the team at a disadvantage, but it also brought the team closer.

ambition. perseverance. devotion.

**Most Valuable**

Jacob Pavel



**Leadership**

Jacob Blaylock



**Most Improved**

Marcell Robinson



**Mental Attitude**

Sam Bond



**Swimming & Diving**



Sophomore Alexander Matthews

"The team's size made us a family," Wolak said.

"Not many people give swimming the credit it deserves. It takes mental and physical stamina to succeed. A lot think practices are all just easy swimming, but swimming and diving take real dedication. During season, you have no life outside of practice and sleeping. The team is your friends and family. You eat breakfast together after morning practice, go to school together, practice again, go home and come back to do it all again," Pavel said.



With a mind set towards his goal, Senior Jacob Pavel swims freestyle in an attempt to help his team win the meet. "I was really kind of disappointed when I took second at sectionals this year. I felt like I deserved to go to state with how much I worked," Pavel said. With a second-place finish at sectionals, Pavel missed the state competition by less than two seconds.

With the smallest team Merrillville High School has seen in a while, the boys' swimming and diving team struggled to be competitive.

"We lost several meets due to numbers," Senior swimmer Jacob Pavel said.

"Most teams had two or three times as many guys as we did," Senior swimmer Nicholas Wolak said.

The teams' small numbers often made it hard to make a winning lineup.

"We didn't have a lot of people



which stroke  
is that?

Can you guess which stroke  
each of these swimmers is doing?



- A. Back stroke  
B. Breast stroke  
C. Freestyle  
D. Butterfly

| Opponent        | Score  | W/L |
|-----------------|--------|-----|
| Lowell          |        | L   |
| Chesterton      | 148-37 | L   |
| Portage         | 126-60 | L   |
| Rensselaer      | 95-87  | L   |
| Lake Central    | 140-46 | L   |
| Highland        | 106-74 | L   |
| Hobart          | 85-58  | W   |
| Crown Point     | 103-83 | L   |
| Griffith        | 124-59 | W   |
| Valparaiso      | 134-52 | L   |
| Kankakee Valley | 98-92  | L   |
| Michigan        | 115-71 | L   |
| DAC             | 93     | 8th |
| LaPorte         | 100-85 | W   |
| Munster         | 120-66 | L   |
| Wheelers        | 114-71 | L   |
| Sectional       | 81     | 6th |

DAC: 1-6  
OVERALL: 3-12

## GIRLS' SWIMMING & DIVING



Senior Captain Kirsten Koharchik's favorite event is the 100 fly. "When I swim such a tough event I just keep telling myself to just keep swimming," Koharchik said. She wore her lucky pair of goggles every meet to pump herself up and planned to go her best time in the 100 fly before the season ended. Koharchik has been swimming for nine years, with four on the varsity team.



Attempting a reverse flip, Sophomore Kaitlyn Phillips said she focuses on perfection. "To be a diver, you have to have really strong legs and arms, a high tolerance for pain and really want it," Phillips said. "I quit soccer, so I needed something to keep me involved. I used to do tumbling, and I thought that it would help in diving," Phillips added.

With eight previous years of experience swimming in Italy, foreign exchange student Senior Monica Dorlight spent her ninth year swimming in the United States. Dorlight's favorite event is the 100 breaststroke. "All I think about during a race is beating the person next to me. And when I win my event, I am happy, mostly because it means I gave all of my effort," Dorlight said.



Senior Kelsey Barrick

Sophomore  
Jordann Matthys

Senior Monica Dorlight

Sophomore  
Kaitlyn Phillips

Junior Kathleen Baran





Losing seven seniors and having their feeder program (Merrillville Aquatic Club or MAC) cancelled, the girls' swimming and diving team was faced with the challenge of an unusually small team.

"Our team's size was our biggest challenge this year," Junior Kathleen Baran said. "We lost a lot of meets that we won last year because our team was so small."

In regard to the team's size, Senior captain Kirsten Koharchik said, "If it [the team] had been bigger, we could have done better I think."

But the girls were up to the

challenge.

"We all had to step up and swim more events than in the past," Senior captain Michelle Ross said.

Having a new set of assistant coaches and a newly-promoted

**'We all had to step up and swim more events than in the past.'**  
**Michelle Ross**

head coach helped the girls remain confident.

"Coach D was a lot more positive and overall brought a

better attitude for the team,"

Sophomore Morgan Oros said.

Part of the team's problem was its lack of publicity.

"Diving doesn't get a lot of recognition, so no one really knows it's out there," Sophomore Kaitlyn Phillips said.

"Not everyone knows there is a swim team," Koharchik said.

All in all, the girls were proud of their season.

"Although we didn't achieve our goal of sending two relays to state, we all swam personal best times at sectionals and that was more rewarding," Ross concluded.



Sophomore Jordann Matthys

Sophomore Kelsey Sajdera has spent seven years swimming and two years on the high school varsity team. Sajdera plans on participating in swimming for the remainder of her high school career. Sajdera's favorite event is the 100 breast stroke, which is also her signature stroke. She said she tries to bring confidence and determination to every practice. "When I swim I just ignore the pain and keep swimming," Sajdera said.

Senior Kayla Meloy has been swimming for 12 years. Meloy's favorite thing about about swimming is winning an event and seeing her best time. "I met my goal this year in sectionals by going a 5:50 in my 500 yard freestyle," Meloy said. Meloy's favorite meet was her freshman year when the team defeated Munster High School, who was a top-ranked team.



Senior captain Michelle Ross has been swimming for four years. Ross swam the 100 freestyle and the 50 backstroke for the 200 medley relay. "Meets are always memorable when it's a close meet. The team comes together behind every lane and on the sidelines to cheer on individuals and relays. It usually gets pretty intense," Ross said. After high school Ross plans to play recreational water polo in college.

fortitude. stamina. heart.

**Morgan Oros**

**Most Valuable**



**Michelle Ross**

**Leadership**



**Kirsten Koharchik**

**Most Improved**

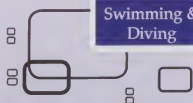


**Kaitlyn Phillips**

**Mental Attitude**



**Swimming & Diving**



Sophomore  
Elvyn Babilonia

Sophomore  
Jordann Matthys

Senior Monica Dorlich

stepping up,  
swimming more.



# overcoming injury.



**Most Valuable**

Tiffany Leicht



**Leadership**

Ariana Taylor



**Most Improved**

Blake Taylor



**Mental Attitude**

Lisa Pozniak



Senior Danielle Bly



**Gymnastics**

Agility. Flexibility. Stamina. Heart.

Every girl on Coach Diane Roberts' team knows she expects her gymnasts to possess these qualities. This season, they needed more.

Obstacles in the form of injury plagued this team, but they worked together and eventually sent one of their girls, Junior Diona Milenkovski, to state.

The team battled many mishaps, beginning with the first meet over Winter Break.

Senior captain Taryn Woods suffered an ankle injury and could not compete until sectionals.



Senior Tiffany Leicht



Junior Lisa Pozniak



Freshman  
Sasha Merrill

pride. determination. persistence.



To end her routine, Sophomore Chandler Hill does the Merrilville Crawl, an exercise that every MHS gymnast does somewhere in her routine. "Gymnastics is generally hard, but in spite of the team's injuries, we were still good," Hill said. Coach Diane Roberts said that when doing the Merrilville Crawl, gymnasts "pull themselves up, crawl and finish in a dramatic downward position."

Seniors Danielle Bly and Tiffany Leicht and Junior Lisa Pozniak also suffered injuries which kept them from competing.

Bly sustained a spiral fracture in her leg. Leicht bruised, sprained

**'The biggest thing that advances our team is the relationships we share between one another.'**  
Valerie Bly

and tore cartilage in her knee and Pozniak had sprains in both ankles.

"A huge difference would have been made if Danielle Bly was in

all-around, Lisa Pozniak was full strength and Tiffany Leicht was able to do beam at our regional meet," Senior Ariana Taylor said.

Team members said the hardships they faced this year made them closer and helped them work as one to end the season on a place away from competing at the state level.

"In gymnastics we combine power, stamina, grace, flexibility and so many other elements to become the best, but the biggest thing that advances our team is the relationships we share between one another," Sophomore Valerie Bly said.



Sophomore  
Heather Brown

Senior Taryn Woods

Sophomore  
Valerie Bly

Junior Diona Milenkowski

Junior Lisa Pozniak

Junior Theresa Yugo



"Arienne is known for her dramatic beauty and classical style," Gymnastics Coach Diane Roberts said of Senior Arienne Taylor. The most valuable gymnast of the season, Taylor begins her floor exercise lying on her back. Her regional score was 9.5, and she missed advancing to the state finals by .005.



Despite her ankle injury over Winter Break, Senior Taryn Woods does a sideward movement, which is required on a balance beam. "Doing gymnastics for so long makes me want to continue. The challenge keeps me going," Woods said.

Balancing, Junior Diona Milenkowski drapes her body around the beam as she shows off her signature skill. A gymnast for seven years, Milenkowski said, "I keep everything in perspective and stay focused." Milenkowski was the only gymnast to advance to the state competition.



As she begins her floor exercise, Senior Tiffany Leicht moves into a pose that Coach Diane Roberts says "shows flexibility and grace." Leicht, who has been competing in gymnastics for 13 years, said her team worked hard to overcome obstacles together.

Gymnastics Coach Diane Roberts calls the beginning of Junior Lisa Pozniak's floor routine "dramatic." Like other gymnasts, Pozniak practices year round to improve her routines. "It's different from other sports. It's an overall challenge," Pozniak said.



**STICK IT**  
/'stik . it / 1: Slang for a gymnast executing a perfect landing



Sophomore Rebekah Rochefort

## GYMNASTICS

| Opponent                     | Score           | W / L |
|------------------------------|-----------------|-------|
| Michigan City                | 103.175-91.85   | W     |
| Lowell                       | 100.55-81.25    | W     |
| Hobart                       | 100.55-83.95    | W     |
| Lake Central                 | 101.70-92.25    | W     |
| Concordia Class              |                 | 5th   |
| Let's go                     | 106.70-104.65   | L     |
| Pine Prairie, Ind            |                 | 1st   |
| Portage                      | 109.425-101.35  | W     |
| Chesterfield                 | 109.525-105.95  | W     |
| Crown Point                  | 105.975-105.55  | L     |
| Valparaiso                   | 113.975-107.175 | 5th   |
| Duneland Athletic Conference |                 | 4th   |
| Sectional                    |                 | 3rd   |
| Regional                     |                 | 3rd   |

DAC: 4-3  
OVERALL: 6-3



"We always look for students with good character. It is more important to have well-mannered and well-behaved cheerleaders representing our school than students who may give the community the wrong impression of our school corporation or cheerleading program. Of course, talent and pride in your school are important as well," Cheerleading Coach Lori Govert said.

The cheerleaders now have a male cheerleader on the team who the coach hopes will add to the talent of the squad. Junior

Alexander Gacsy is the "new guy" of the squad. "I wanted to join the cheerleading squad because I wanted to do something that gave me a reason to commit to school," Gacsy said.

Senior Katherine Sadural also enjoys being on the cheerleading team because it allows her to be with her friends. Even though she finds cheering for two consecutive seasons to be difficult, she pushes through it for the love of cheerleading. "My friends are on the team and the passion that I have for cheerleading just keeps

me coming back for more," Sadural said. Football is her favorite season, she said, "because the crowd is more pumped up and more involved during a game, and in my opinion, football is a more intense sport to cheer for."

The cheerleaders do many things in order to prepare themselves for both the football and basketball seasons. They have morning practices during the summer, and they also go to National Cheerleading Association (NCA) Camp. "We learn everything we need to know for both the basketball and football season and NCA Camp," Sadural said.

During basketball season, Mrs. Govert said she was pleased with routines. "I felt our dances and stunts were creative, challenging and innovative. Each year, the team

seems to raise the bar. We received a number of compliments on how well we cheer and dance," Mrs. Govert said.

Mrs. Govert, who has been coaching since 1989, said she was also surprised with the cheerleading tryouts. "I was pleasantly pleased with the incoming freshmen that tried out. They show a lot of potential and will be a great asset to our program," Mrs. Govert said. "I was also pleased with how well the veteran cheerleaders helped the new students trying out. It shows wonderful character to put your needs aside and help out someone who is less experienced. I wouldn't expect anything less of them."

"Every year, each team brings something new to the table," she said, "and together, we create some terrific memories."

While the football game continues behind her, Junior Lisa Pozniak entertains the fans. Pozniak has cheered with Merrillville High School for three years and is one of the girls who will be affected by the graduating seniors. "They can leave behind their memories, but they can keep their drama. They were all strong parts of the team," Pozniak said.

After scoring a touchdown, the cheerleaders jump with joy to hype up the crowd and the team for a home game. "The seasons have been really fun, and now that I'm leaving, I hope to leave behind a team that is competing in themselves," Senior Kendall Bonick said.

daring. honoring. enthusiasm.

Katherine Sadural  
Most Valuable



Sarah All Pineda  
Leadership



Kamelaene Chene  
Most Improved



Melissa Kowalski  
Sportsmanship



Catherine Gaudin  
Pride Enthusiasm  
Patience Award



accomplishing  
the impossible.



Senior Kendall Bonick

Senior Katherine Sadural

Junior Darin Art





During a basketball game, Sophomore Erin Bielak cheers along with the crowd. "We work hard, we sweat and we go to 5:45 a.m. summer practices. Cheering is tough," Bielak said.



With much teamwork, the cheerleaders perform a group stunt. Senior Katherine Sadural flips through the air with help from Junior Catherine Gamino and Sophomore Katelynn Usher.



**Favorite stunts.**  
**Low-High:** The top flyer starts on the same level as her side flyers. Her bases then bring her down to the level of their hips before they toss her straight up into the air. The top flyer uses her side flyers to do a side hurdler kick in the air.



**Staff's Stunt:** The top flyer starts in an arabesque and the side bases hold her arms and her feet. The top flyer then flips onto her back and the side flyers and all the bases of the top flyer push her into a liberty.

As she stunts with her squad, Sophomore Katelynn Usher smiles and sticks the stunt. "It's a lot better to cheer while we're toiming because everyone will actually listen and watch us," Usher said



## Cheerleading

### Varsity Cheerleaders

Coach Lon Govett

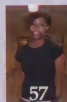
Front row: Kendall Bonick, Katherine Sadural, Kandace Greene; Second row: Erin Bielak, Katelynn Usher, Dayna Young, Melissa Kwiatkoski, Raevyn Harper; Back row: Catherine Gamino, Jasmine Harris, Daniella Gregoline, Diva Lowe, Lisa Pozniak, Dania Arthur.

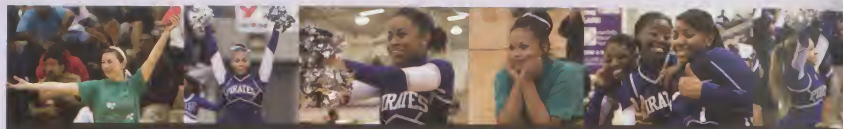


Senior  
Kandace Greene Sophomore Katelynn Usher Junior Catherine Gamino

Sophomores Raevyn Harper  
and Erin Bielak

Junior  
Melissa Kwiatkoski Junior Jasmine Harris





Senior Markella Papamihalakis

Junior Jaylah Robinson

Senior Jasmine Woods

Junior Naudia Bradley

Seniors Tia Bates, JacQuese Waters  
and Brianna Clark

Senior  
Lorielle Johnson



While performing with the children from the Junior Dance Clinic, Junior Briana Lee demonstrates a good performance. The dance clinic was just one of the many fundraisers that the dancers participated in. "We do a lot as dancers, and it's all hard work," Lee said.



### uniform expression.



The Pirate uniform is used for regular performances and makes the routine look clean and put together.

The MHS uniform is used as an alternative to the Pirate outfit and shows the spirit of the team.



The Jazz uniform is used for performances that indicate a flowing or graceful dance.



During a routine, the dance team gets in a group formation. "People would be surprised to know that dance takes a lot of technique," Junior Naudia Bradley said.



As the pregame music plays, Senior Markella Papamihalakis dances with the team. "I like dancing for basketball because everyone gets to see what we really do," Papamihalakis said. Papamihalakis is one of the nine seniors on the team this year. "I want the girls next year to work really hard like we did this year," Papamihalakis said.



As the team performs, Junior Gabrielle Roberts stays in sync with her teammates. "My favorite dance style is jazz," Roberts said. This year has been the first time that the dance team has performed a jazz routine. "All of our routines take a lot of work, and it take a lot of years to perfect the technique you need to dance," Roberts said.

# live, love, dance.



Junior  
Gabrielle Roberts

Senior Jasmine Jones

Junior Naudia Bradley, Seniors  
Rhonda McGuire and Stephanie Hart



## Varsity Dance Team

Coach Melissa Yokman

Front row: Loriele Johnson, Jasmine Jones, Markella Papamihailikas, Stephanie Hart, Rhonda McGuire, Jasmine Woods; Back row: Jaylah Robinson, Naudia Bradley, Gabrielle Roberts, Tia Bates, Briana Lee, Brianna Clark, Chelsea Campbell, Mariah Dennis.

Building a legacy with each performance, the dance team is saying goodbye to nine of their 14 members.

"We've been dancing together for five years now, and I'm really going to miss all my teammates," Senior Markella Papamihailikas said.

For the first time, the team competed within three different styles of dance, including elite pom, elite hip-hop and jazz.

"If I could describe this year's season, I would say it never had a dull moment," Senior Stephanie Hart said.

The girls said they were challenged during the season when they had to make constant changes to their three routines.

"This year's season had a lot of ups and downs, but we never gave up. Our strong bond kept the team striving to be the best," Sophomore Chelsea Campbell said.

The team practiced three to four times a week, performed at home basketball games, and competed on Saturdays.

"Dance is very time-consuming, but we continue to do it because it's our passion," Senior Rhonda McGuire said.

The team will be left with four veterans.

"We have really big shoes to fill next year," Junior Naudia Bradley said. "The seniors brought years of experience in overall technique to the team."

When the team competed, they were judged on technique choreography, with ultimate perfection and the team dancing in sync as the goals.

"The unique bond among our team is what puts us up above our competition. When we perform, the bond we have off the floor allows us to dance as one," Senior Brianna Clark said.

Though they are losing teammates, they believe their friendships will last forever.

The dancers who remain say they will continue to build the legacy.



Before the football game begins, Senior Stephanie Hart performs to the school song. "A lot of people say that dancing isn't a sport and I'm okay with that because dance is so much more than that," Hart said.

Dance

perfection. intensity. desire.

Most Valuable  
Stephanie Hart



Leadership  
Rhonda McGuire



Most Dedicated  
Naudia Bradley



Coach's 110%  
Margaret Laguarda-Holmes



After much practice, Senior Rhonda McGuire executes a jump. This particular jump is called a C jump because the placement of the body looks like a C.







### Boys' Varsity Basketball

Coach Jim East  
 Front row: Blake Bonin, Michael Fayson, Chris Robinson, Kevin Mask, DeVaughn Cox, Bryce Bonin; Second row: Brandon Clark, Jeremiah Jones, Darlous Stevens, Rico Spikes, Rayon Lewis; Back row: Coach Jim East, Coach David Herring, Jason Simpson, Dolapo Macarthy, Johnathan Nwannunu, Ryan Smith, Tokunbo Fashawe, Coach T.J. Lux, Rev. Timothy Prouse.



### Boys' JV Basketball

Coach David Herring  
 Front row: Brandon Smith, La'Quon Clark, Andre' Ross, Anton Redmon, Carl Campbell; Back row: Zachary Raspopovich, Vincent Dorsey, Coach David Herring, Edward Seay, Joshua Hogan.



### Boys' Freshman Basketball

Coach Luke Starkey  
 Front row: Tyler Caro, Tyran Crawford, KeMonte' Price, Verchon DeBrossard, Jamar Allen; Second row: Deryck Jackson, Frank Jefferson, Darrell Brown, Michael Dicken, Kyran Woods, William Isabell, Samuel Reed; Back row: Anthony Disco, Airlus Reed, John Mosley, Coach Luke Starkey, Jared Knox, Albert Reed, Tyler Kepchar.



### Girls' Varsity Basketball

Coach Amy Govett  
 Front row: Latol Merriweather, Jasmine Wade, Bryonna Davis, Jasmyne Miller, Rayven Murray, Yakeo Lomax; Back row: Coach Stephanie Nelson, Jeda Dixon, Melanee Stubbs, Tracee Mitchel, Lydia Hawkins, Tierra Turner, Coach Amy Govett.



### Girls' JV Basketball

Coach Darcie Johnston  
 Front row: Brianna Thompson, Mercedes McClendon, Mofoluwaso Ibikunle-Salami, Robin Williamson, Demetha Downing, Janay Bray; Back row: Amanda Banashak, Latoya Reaves-Weaver, Coach Darcie Johnston, Kacey Cole, Nevena Djurdjevic.



### Girls' Freshman Basketball

Coach Kim Jackson  
 Front row: Jennayi Barden, Victoria Henderson, Samantha Mahone, Lauren Blackwell, Indian Cooke, Danielle Abel; Back row: Amanda Banashak, Mia Patikas, Coach Kim Jackson, Kacey Cole, Rasheeda Robinson.



winter



# WRESTLING



## Wrestling

Coach David Maldonado

Front row: Zachary Stevens, Anthony Pitts, Payton Parker, Luis Padilla, Michael Ward, Gabriel Montemayor, Derek Taylor, Frankie Valdivia, Robert Sosa; Second row: William Costakis, Edgar Guadarrama, Milton Davis, Jalen Foster, Rahim Cornwell, Eduardo Deluna, Walter Barones, Peter Berlanga, Nicholas Badali, Anthony Napules, Javier Avalos, David Cross; Third row: Darius Richmond, Daryl Peppers, Travis Norman, Joseph Lee, Benjamin Kepchar, Xavier Ponce, Antonio Garcia, Tyler Houser, Keon Jones; Fourth row: Coach Rob Pelyko, Zachary Sandefur, Courtney Berry, Perry Ward, Eldryn Goode, Jacob Jarra, Robbie Jordan, Najeb Ariffes, Coach Gene Bierman; Back row: Coach Mike Lawrence, Marin Flores, James Travis, Fablan Hoffman, Jeremy Wengel, Juaquin Muro, Joshua Washington, Head Coach David Maldonado.



## Gymnastics

Head Coach: Diane Roberts

Front row: Chandler Hill, Diana Milenkovski, Theresa Yugo, Lisa Pozniak, Heather Brown, Rebekah Rochefort; Back row: Sasha Morales, Tiffany Leicht, Danielle Bly, Arlen Taylor, Taryn Woods, Valerie Bly, Coach Diane Roberts, Coach Nick Roberts.



## JV Dance Team

Coach Melissa Volkman

Front row: Ericka Brown, Jenee Porter, Angelica Dix; Second row: Jessica Lowery, Jasmine Suggs, Victoria Smith, Unique Jeter, Jennlyne Adams, Brittanee Sturdivant, Brittli Jackson, Danna DeLeon, Alexandria Norton.



## Girls' Swimming and Diving

Coach Ladd Downham

Front row: Kathleen Baran, Julie Best, Kelsey Barrick, Jordann Mathys, Elery Bablonia, Creona Woodson; Second row: Manager Brandi Wolak, Manager Megan McGill, Michelle Reas, Kaitlyn Phillips, Angela Reynolds, Morgan Gunn, Coach Molly Crown; Third row: Coach Ladd Downham, Mallory Lancaster, Kayla Meloy, Kaitlynn Sterkowitz, Morgan Orosz, Kelsey Washburn, Coach Sara Stallings; Back row: Kirsten Koharchik, Monica Dorling, Brittney Bass, Jill Ross, Kelsey Sajdera, Alyssa James.



## Boys' Swimming and Diving

Head Coach: Ladd Downham

Front row: Darren Blaylock, Markell Baldwin, Jonathan Harmon, Autry Phillips, Holland Earl; Second row: David Jordan, Alexander Matthews, Mike Sandridge, Jacob Pavel, Jacob Caddick; Third row: Coach Ladd Downham, Colin Burke, Juan Rivera, Robert Dominick-Warren, Christian Williams, Anthony Corrales, Coach Sarah Stallings, Coach Molly Crown; Back row: Brandi Wolak, Dan Rios, Carlos Ortega, Nicholas Wolak, Jonathan Cowley, Megan McGill.

sports.





## field events.

**Discus –**  
Event in which a competitor throws a heavy disc, or discus, with the goal of throwing it a farther distance than his opponent.



**High Jump –** Event in which an athlete attempts to jump, without the aid of any devices, over a horizontal bar without touching it with any body part.



**Pole Vault –** Event in which a competitor uses a long flexible pole as an aid to leap over a horizontal bar.



Competing at a meet with Chesterton and Portage, Senior Brian West prepares to throw the discus. West has been in track for three years and does not plan on letting this year be his last year. West competed at the state meet finishing in 20th place with a distance of 139-6 in the discus and 9th place with a distance of 54-11 in shotput. "I do track for the love of the sport, and I plan on competing next year at Indiana State University," West said.

During a meet, Senior Rowen Harper sprints down the track in the 100 meter dash. "This year was a good season and I am performing way better than I did last year," Harper said. Harper won the DAC indoor 55 meter dash and 200 meter dash for 2 consecutive years. "Even though balancing school work and track gets tough at times, I still give it my all because I want to continue to get better," Harper said.



| Opponent                | Score     | W/L |
|-------------------------|-----------|-----|
| DAC Indoor Invitational | 2nd       |     |
| Crown Point             | 80-52     | W   |
| Valparaiso              | 88-44     | L   |
| LaPorte                 | 84-43     | W   |
| West Lafayette Kelly    | 1st of 11 |     |
| Chesterton              | 72-60     | W   |
| Delphi Invitational     | 1st of 7  |     |
| Lake Central            | 102-30    | W   |
| Michigan City           | 98-34     | W   |
| DAC Meet                | 2nd of 8  |     |
| Sectional               | 1st of 13 |     |
| Regional                | 2nd of 36 |     |

DAC  
OVERALL: 20-3

## BOYS' TRACK



"I was happy with this season, but I feel like we could have done better. Overall, I believe we pulled off the season with a good ending," Junior Jaylen Bentley said. Bentley has high hopes for his senior year. "I hope my last year will be my best year. My ultimate goal for next year is to go to state in all my events," Bentley said.



Senior Daniel McGee

Senior Melvin Davis

Junior Landau Lang

Junior Byron Ferrell

Senior Keith Paulish



Coming off an undefeated season in 2008, the boys' Track Team had to work hard to keep their reputation alive. Although the team lost key runners, they gained several new runners that stepped up to take their places.

"We had a new kid this year, Dylan Harrison, and he got third at DAC in the mile which was always a weak event for us," Senior Ron Crosby-Green said.

"The team has had trouble staying consistent with times and wins," Crosby-Green added.

Another key athlete has been Senior high jumper Ashton Cole.

"Ashton Cole has made a big increase from last year," Coach Jim Johnston said.

"He has taken his success to a new level and is hoping to take a stab at the school record of 6'9"," Coach Johnston added.

Going into the post season,

**'Everyone works hard and performs well, and several have shown leadership.'**  
Coach Brian Past

hopes were high for a repeat sectional win and an attempt at another regional title.

"Our goal this year is to win sectionals and regionals and to place as many athletes as we can at

the state meet," Coach Brian Past said.

As for leaders, there are many that step up and play a big role in challenging each other.

"Everyone has led. We haven't had one that sticks out. Everyone works hard and performs well and several have shown individual leadership," Coach Past said.

Overall the season ended a little too soon for Coach Johnston, but he was very proud of the athletes.

"It hurt to lose regionals by 4 points, but advancing 14 guys down to state made me feel great, even though we lost the regional title," Coach Johnston said.



Senior Ron Crosby-Green

The high jump is Senior Ashton Cole's favorite event of the track season. Cole's goal was to beat the school's record held by 2001 alumnus and girls' head soccer coach Ben Daniel. "This season was a really good season for me, I'm jumping 6'8" and by the end of the season I plan to jump at least 6'9" so that I can achieve my goal of breaking the school's record," he said. Cole competed at the state meet with a distance of 6'4" placing him in 16th place in the long jump.



"This season, I believe, has gone pretty good. The best part is that we have young guys stepping up this year. That's always a plus," Senior Keon Jones said. Jones believes that even though the team did not win the DAC, the season ended on a good note.

eat. sleep. run.

Henry West  
Most Valuable



Henry West  
Leadership



Ashton Cole  
Most Improved



Charles Saunders  
Sportsmanship



Boys' Track

Sophomore Jory Cunningham Junior Kelly Wiggins Junior Steven Guzek Senior Milton Davis

on your mark.



# going the distance.



**Most Valuable**  
Rebecca Neville



**Leadership**  
Tiera Simpson



**Most Improved**  
Nakel McClinton



**Sportsmanship**  
Bianca Eaton

distance. inspiration. challenge.



Senior Keenisha Ferguson  
Senior Tiera M. Simpson



Freshman Jazmyin Thomas



Senior Arien Taylor



In the state finals at Bloomington, Indiana, in early June, Senior Rebecca Neville jumped a personal best 19' 1 3/4" in the long jump event and won a state championship. In the 100 hurdles, she came in fourth. "I've been running since I was five years old," Neville said. "I get motivated by just wanting to achieve my personal best each time. I would advise people to join track because you achieve good physical shape and make relationships that can last forever," Neville added. Neville is going to attend the University of Kansas this fall on a full track scholarship.



Determined to get a good time, Senior Arien Taylor takes hold of the baton in the 400 meter relay. "If I had to choose, I would say that my favorite coach is Mr. Eaton because even though he may seem mean at times, he pushes us to do our very best at all times," Taylor said. Taylor plans to continue running track in college at Xavier University this year.



Freshman Alexandra Domoras



Even though the girls fell short in the DAC, they came back strong and beat rival Crown Point to win the sectional title.

"The win really turned the season around. We are in a tough conference with great schools. We didn't do too well in the conference and the girls started doubting themselves," Coach Jeff Eaton said. "Winning sectionals really turned things around."

The team came in 4th at the regional and advanced seven athletes in the shot put, long jump, hurdles and 400 relay.

With all the hard work and dedication, Senior Tiera Simpson referred to the win as a "humbling experience."

**"There is always a light at the end of the tunnel. You just have to work hard to reach it."**  
Coach Jeff Eaton

"We all just pray and encourage each other to help get through the

meets," Simpson said.

Although the team will lose graduating seniors, there are still high hopes for next year's team.

"I hope that they will continue to work hard and be leaders to the ones that will come behind them," Senior Rebecca Neville said.

"I hope they take the lessons they learned to overcome the hardships and carry it on with them post high school. There is always a light at the end of the tunnel. You just have to work hard to reach it," Coach Eaton said of his graduating runners.







Senior Kate Tarr



Sophomore Robin Williamson



Freshman Megan Dicken



Sophomore Eva Foley



Sophomore  
Taishe Abrams

Senior Rebecca Neville



Receiving the baton from teammate Senior Tiera M. Simpson, Senior Keenisha Ferguson begins her turn in the 400 meter relay. Ferguson, Simpson, Freshman Shermika Winston, Senior Rebecca Neville and Freshman Jazmyne Thomas were state qualifiers. "Pirate track is all about the team work and being a part of the team has really taught me leadership skills," Ferguson said.



"The best part about being on the track team is meeting all new people and hanging out with them everyday for four months," Freshman Nakel McLinton said. During a competition, McLinton tries to stay focused while throwing the shotput. "I just try to stay focused and remember everything the coach told me," McLinton said. McLinton advanced to state where she placed 17th.



A four-year letter winner, Senior Melissa Warren runs the 800 meter. She was the regional qualifier on the 4 by 800 and 4 by 400 relay teams. Warren will attend college on a volleyball scholarship.



As she dashes to the finish line, Senior Yesenia Vasquez hopes for a good finish. "My motivation for each race is just to envision myself winning, even though I haven't won yet, it motivates me to try harder," Vasquez said. "The best feeling is having all of the support from your teammates," Vasquez added.

*staying on track.*  
**Sprints** - Short running races that do not exceed 400 meters.

**Middle distance** - Races that are longer than sprints, including events between 800 and 3000 meters.

**Long distance** - Long races of endurance that include the 5000 and 10000 meter runs.

**Hurdles** - Races that introduce hurdles that are jumped while running for distances of 100 to 400 meters

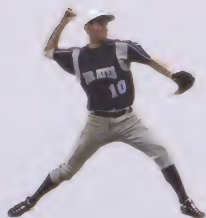
**Relay** - Four members of a team combine their abilities to compete for the fastest time.

## GIRLS' TRACK

| Opponent             | Score     | W/L |
|----------------------|-----------|-----|
| Hopkiss State Finals |           | 7th |
| Valparaiso           | 89-33     | L   |
| Crown Point          | 83-49     | L   |
| LaPorte              | 81-61     | L   |
| West Lafayette       | 7-14      | 8th |
| Chesterton           | 70.5-52.5 | L   |
| Portage              | 66-66     | T   |
| Delphi Invite        |           | 1st |
| Lake Central         | 83-48     | L   |
| Michigan City        | 35-47     | W   |
| DAC Meet             |           | 3rd |
| Sectional            |           | 1st |
| Regional             |           | 4th |

DAC: 1-5-1 (4th place)  
OVERALL: 63-1-1





Junior Kevin Schroeder

"I just love the game, the smell of the field, the sky, playing hard, seeing the scouts in the stands, beating the big teams and holding our heads up when we lose," Senior designated hitter Eric Davis said.

Davis is a four-year player for the high school team who plans to use the skills he learned at MHS to go on to the collegiate level.

"We have a winning attitude, even though our record shows different. The team's bond and our work ethic shows us and other teams that no matter what the

outcome of the game, we will still work our hardest," Junior Nicolas Townes said.

**'I just love the game,  
the smell of the field,  
the sky.'  
Eric Davis**

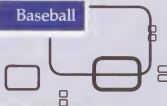
Throughout the season, the team became better, faster and stronger on both defensive and offensive plays.

"I truly think that Michael

McNeil is a strong leader on this team. His work ethic shows dedication and ambition," Junior Kyle Strom said.

As the season continued, the players and coaches formed bonds that will last a lifetime.

"Coach (Brad) Schulte is always laid back and down to earth. He relates to us a little more than the rest of the coaches, and I know he along with the other coaches, have made a huge difference in my life and the lives of my teammates," Davis said.



Junior Xavier Ponce (3), one of Merrillville's shortstops, jumps to catch the ball. "Our season had its ups and downs," Ponce said. Ponce has been playing baseball for 13 years and plans to return next year as a senior. "Hopefully next year we'll do better and maybe have a winning record," Ponce said.

After Junior Michael McNeil (8) hits a home run, members of the baseball team meet him at home plate to celebrate. "Mike's home run sailed right out in like five seconds. Mike touched home before the ball even hit the field," Junior Kevin Schroeder (10) said. McNeil was not the only one satisfied with his hitting. "I've hit a few stand up trips. They were all pretty cool," Schroeder said.



**Xavier Ponce**  
**Most Valuable**



**Jonathan Knight**  
**Leadership**



**Kevin Schroeder**  
**Most Improved**



**Eric Davis**  
**Sportsmanship**



*strength. leadership. diligence.*

*working for  
a change.*



**Sophomore Christopher Knight and  
Senior Donald Cox**

**Senior Ryan Stokes**

**Senior Joel Van Winkle**



With hopes of striking out the batter, Junior Zachary Forsell (6) winds up on the mound. "I like when I pitch because I've been doing it for years. I really think it's my strongest point," Forsell said. The baseball team lost to Munster 6-3.



After getting a hit off the Munster pitcher, Junior Michael McNeil (8) dashes towards first base as he drops the bat. "I hurt my elbow at that game, but I still managed to finish the game," McNeil said. McNeil has been playing baseball for 11 years. "Our team makes too many errors, but we're a work in progress," McNeil said.



| Opponent      | Score | W/L |
|---------------|-------|-----|
| Hobart        | 6-3   | L   |
| Boone Grove   | 5-3   | L   |
| Hammond       | 11-3  | W   |
| Munster       | 6-3   | L   |
| Griffith      | 12-2  | L   |
| Highland      | 5-1   | W   |
| Lowell        | 13-2  | L   |
| Lake Central  | 15-10 | L   |
| Portage       | 9-3   | L   |
| Valparaiso    | 9-3   | L   |
| Chesterlon    | 9-3   | L   |
| LaPorte       | 11-4  | L   |
| Morton (DH)   | 12-2  | L   |
|               | 11-2  | L   |
| Michigan City | 5-4   | W   |
| Crown Point   | 7-0   | L   |
| Lake Central  | 9-0   | L   |
| Portage       | 9-7   | L   |
| Valparaiso    | 10-7  | L   |
| Chesterlon    | 7-4   | L   |
| LaPorte       | 9-2   | L   |
| Bishop Noll   | 10-2  | L   |
| Michigan City | 10-2  | L   |
| Crown Point   | 13-3  | L   |
| Andrea        | 8-3   | L   |
| Sectional     | 15-5  | L   |

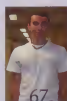
DAC: 1-13  
OVERALL: 3-23

## BASEBALL

As he covers first base, Sophomore Nicholas Feliciano (18) attempts to pick off Munster's Kurt Leeney (23) for an out. This year was not Feliciano's first experience at the varsity level. Feliciano was asked to play with the varsity team his freshman year during sectionals. "Everything about playing for the high school has taught me to be mentally tough," Feliciano said.



Senior Donald Cox    Sophomore Kenneth Wright    Senior Eric Davis    Sophomore Darren Blaylock    Junior Colin Schaefer    Junior Timothy Leicht







Senior Jennifer Tucker

Senior Kelsey Barrick

Junior Allison Kish

Junior Allison Kish

Junior Pauline Laorden  
Senior Ashley Cherry

Junior Julie  
Hayes



Senior Ashley Cherry is up at the net preparing for a volley while her doubles partner Junior Pauline Laorden hits a backhand groundstroke. Cherry has been playing tennis for 13 years and said that she will continue to play tennis after high school because she received a \$5,000 tennis scholarship to Calumet College of Saint Joseph.



## GIRLS' TENNIS

| Opponent       | Score | W/L |
|----------------|-------|-----|
| Highland       | 4-1   | L   |
| Loach          | 3-2   | W   |
| Hobart         | 3-2   | W   |
| Isis Central   | 4-1   | L   |
| West Lafayette | 3-2   | W   |
| Crown Point    | 3-2   | L   |
| Michigan City  | 4-1   | L   |
| LaPorte        | 4-1   | W   |
| Wheeler        | 4-1   | W   |
| Valparaiso     | 4-1   | L   |
| Portage        | 3-2   | L   |
| Chesterton     | 4-1   | L   |
| Morton         | 3-2   | W   |
| Sectional      |       |     |
| Lew Wallace    | 5-0   | W   |
| Hobart         | 3-2   | L   |

DAC: 0-7

OVERALL: 6-9



Q&A

## Jennifer Tucker

**Q: Who is your favorite professional tennis player?**

**A: Serena Williams**

**Q: What does it take to become a tennis player?**

**A: You have to have integrity, determination and perseverance to be a good player.**

**Q: How long have you been playing?**

**A: Six years**

**Q: When and where did you improve the most?**

**A: I improved the most here, at Merrillville, about junior year.**

**Q: How old were you when you received your first tennis racket?**

**A: 12 years old**

Number one singles player Senior Kelsey Barrick scrambles to score a point. Barrick said that her greatest accomplishment while playing tennis was in the 2008 season. Barrick and her doubles partner, Merrillville graduate Ashley Contreras, advanced to the state finals. This year, Barrick was the only player to advance to regionals and lost after two sets.



In preparation to hit the ball, Senior Hannelore Reynolds takes her stance. Reynolds has been playing tennis for four years. Her advice for next year's team is "stay dedicated, love what they do and let the racket do the talking."





Senior Jennifer  
Tucker

Senior Kelsey Barrick



Senior Hannelore Reynolds



In order to help them improve the game, Coach James Simon encourages Senior Ashley Cherry and Junior Pauline Laorden. Laorden said that Coach Simon was "telling us what we need to work on for the next two games before the changeover."

In an attempt to hit the ball, Junior Allison Kish stretches her body to reach the ball. After losing eight seniors last year, "we've stepped up a lot this year," Kish said. Next year, Kish hopes to improve their record from this year and work better together.

The girls on the 2008-09 tennis team agreed that the achievement that gave them the most pride this season was their record.

"Our greatest accomplishment this season was improving our record from last year," Junior Julie Hays said.

"We did a lot better than we thought we would with losing eight seniors," Senior Captain Jennifer Tucker added.

Newly instated morning practices could be credited with this improvement. The girls had morning practices for an hour Monday, Wednesday and Friday for nine days.

"They gave us more hitting

practice after school because we didn't have to condition as much. I think I'm in better shape," Junior Allison Kish remarked.

"Most of our success was in the

**'Even though we haven't won a lot, we've improved.'**  
Jennifer Tucker

beginning of the season when we had morning practices," Tucker added.

Not only did their record improve, but their relationships with each other did as well.

# no fear.

peace.  
love.  
tennis.

**Most Valuable**

Kelsey Barrick



**Leadership**

Ashley Cherry



**Most Improved**

Hannelore Reynolds



**Sportsmanship**

Hannelore Reynolds



**Girls' Tennis**



Senior Hannelore Reynolds

"We bonded way more this season than any other," Sophomore Angela Reynolds stated.

"It was challenging in the beginning, but we matured together as a team," Kish added.

Better bonding off the court directly affected their playing on the court.

"We're working better as a team to get the points we need to win," Kish said.

The girls beat Lew Wallace in the first round of sectionals with a score of 5-0; however, they lost in the second round of sectionals to Hobart (3-2). Overall, the girls felt this season was a success.





strokes, shots, flops.  
terms to know  
to get to the top.

**Par**—A predetermined number of strokes that a scratch golfer should require to complete a hole, a round or a tournament.

**Birdie**—A score on an individual hole that is one stroke below par.

**Eagle**—A score of two strokes below par on any individual hole.

**Bogey**—A score of one over par on any individual hole.

**Slice**—A type of shot in which the ball curves in the shape of a banana - starting out to the left of the target and then bending dramatically back to the right of the target.

**Fade**—A trajectory or ball flight in which the golf ball comes off the clubface moving to the left of the target before curving gently back to the right.

**Draw**—A flight path of the ball in which the ball curves gently right-to-left for a right-handed player, or left-to-right for a left-handed player.

| Opponent           | Score   | W/L     |
|--------------------|---------|---------|
| Lowell             | 185-197 | W       |
| Boone Grove        | 171-189 | L       |
| Kankakee Valley    | 189-210 | W       |
| LaPorte            | 162-189 | L       |
| Portage            | 189-197 | W       |
| KV Invite          |         | 10th    |
| Chesterton         | 149-163 | L       |
| Valparaiso         | 168-185 | L       |
| Wheeler            | 175-187 | W       |
| Bishop Noll        | 175-183 | W       |
| Lake Central       | 162-181 | L       |
| Michigan City      | 161-181 | L       |
| Boone Grove Invite |         | 5th     |
| Crown Point        | 175-195 | L       |
| Chesterton         | 144-182 | L       |
| Lake Central       | 175-182 | L       |
| Crown Point        | 183-183 | W       |
| Michigan City      | 183-164 | L       |
| LaPorte            | 185-156 | L       |
| DAC JV             |         | 7th     |
| Portage            | 184-180 | L       |
| Valparaiso         |         | 184-156 |
| DAC                |         | 7th     |
| Sectional          | 358     | 4th     |

DAC: 2-12  
OVERALL: 6-13

## BOYS' GOLF



Watching the ball down the green, Senior Stephen Carniello hits a flop shot. "My mom inspires me to play golf because she plays, and she gave me the great idea to try out for the team," Carniello said. With progress from last year, "I think we have greatly improved, and the team almost has .500 this season," Carniello added.

"To prepare for a match, I listen to my strokes and numbers at the driving range," Senior Matt Neese said. Neese was on the team to drive the ball to the green. "I feel the team is getting better and playing smarter," Neese added.



As he hits his approach shot, Senior Zachary Gibson watches closely. Being an amateur at golf, "I was watching some Tiger Woods, and the game inspired me to play golf. I have been playing since last fall, about a year or year and a half," Gibson said.

A golfer since he was 10, Freshman Sean Panning watches his drive soar onto the fairway. "It's my favorite sport. My grandfather inspires me because he taught me a lot about the sport," Panning said.



Junior Francis Martisovic

Senior Zachary Gibson

Senior Stephen Carniello

Senior Matthew Neese

Freshman Sean Panning



Boys' golf Coach Dave Hinkel tries to help his athletes to be the best that they can in the different aspects of golf.

"I usually talk more about the mental aspects of golf to the players," Coach Hinkel said.

"I also make sure to help with the basic fundamentals and foundations of the sport," Coach Hinkel added.

The team is at somewhat of a disadvantage, only being able to practice when weather conditions are ideal. They start practicing twice a week in February, with the

amount of practices increasing as the season progresses.

The golf team has also taken a major step toward improving their game by having PGA golf

**'I usually talk more about the mental aspects of golf.'**  
Coach Dave Hinkel

professionals analyze their swings so they can try to correct the errors they see.

As far as the team's progress from year to year is concerned, Coach Hinkel said that it seems like the team's skills get better every year.

They set a goal before the season starts to be sure to make it farther than they did the previous year.

Coach Hinkel says that so far it seems like they will achieve that goal.

"This year's level of success matches the season best from ten years ago," Coach Hinkel said.

"We are making baby steps," he added.



Senior Stephen Carniello

After he tees off, Junior Francis Martisovic follows through on his swing. "I have been playing golf since I was little, and I chose to play because it is a fun matchup in high school competitions," Martisovic said. Over time, "my best game was regionals 2008, and my worst was sectionals 2007," Martisovic said.



fundamentals. drive. enthusiasm.

Francis Martisovic  
Most Valuable



Matthew Niese  
Leadership



Stephen Carniello  
Sportsmanship



Francis Martisovic  
Most Improved



Junior Francis Martisovic

Senior Zachary Gibson

Senior Matthew Niese

Senior Stephen Carniello



new faces,  
better scores.



# batter up.



**Most Valuable**

Katelynn St. Lawrence



**Leadership**

Natalie Novella



**Sportsmanship**

Sarah Williams



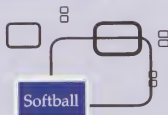
**Most Improved**

Brenda Roy

dignity. adversity. resistance.



Junior Natalie Richers



Band-Aids, bruises, cuts and scrapes are all a part of the softball season.

"It's a hard-core sport. You go home with a different sore spot every day, but it's my entire heart. When I step on the field, I can't wipe the smile off my face," Senior Sarah Williams said.

The softball team is starting a freshman player for the second consecutive year. Freshman Mercedes McClendon was the shortstop starter for part of the season.

"Honestly, I was shocked. I had no idea that I'd be starting on the



After fielding the ground ball, Sophomore Gabriella Ponce steps on second base to force Valparaiso's Natalie Novella out. "I started off playing baseball when I was around the age of six, and I really think that it has helped me out a lot with softball," Ponce said. Merrilville lost the game 14-1.

high school team. It really made me open my eyes and realize that I needed to do my best and work my hardest to keep up with the other girls. I just keep my head up

**"It's a hard-core sport... but it's my entire heart."**  
Sarah Williams

and listen to my coaches and the other players. They help me a lot," McClendon said.

During the 2008 season, Sophomore Gabriella Ponce was a



Sophomore Sydney Harold



Senior Sarah Williams



Junior Lindsey Mitchell



While focusing on the ball, Senior Brenda Roy gets ready to swing her bat. Before Roy can get pumped up for the games, she zones herself out from everyone and thinks of her strategies. "The best part of being in softball is being a senior," Roy said. Merrilville the game to Hebron with a score of 5-4.

freshman starting at shortstop.

"It was a lot to live up to. It was really my first year playing softball. I grew up playing baseball with my brothers, and many people don't think there's that big of a difference, but honestly, it was difficult gripping the ball and hitting. Eventually, though, I learned to change my habits, and I really do enjoy playing softball Ponce said.

The highlight of the season was winning the opener against Gavit. It had been ten years since the softball team had won their opening game.







Junior  
Chelsea Ogeroides

Sophomore Gabriela Ponce

Senior Katalin  
Lundberg Armstrong

Junior Kaitlynn Sterkowitz

Junior Sarah Mason

Freshman Mercedes McClendon



Losing her shoe while running to third base, Junior Latia Merritteweather laughs while Coach Carolina Procter calls a timeout so Merritteweather can retrieve her shoe. After three years on the team, Merritteweather said she enjoys playing softball. "I love goofing around and having a great time with the team," she said. Merritteweather won the game against Gavitt 9-8.



As Hebron's Stacy Blank blocks second base, Freshman Mercedes McClendon slides around her to be safe. "Living up to the responsibility of starting is the hardest thing I've had to face this year," McClendon said.



Following the introductions, Senior Jennifer Crawley shares high fives with Junior Kaitlynn Sterkowitz (17) and Senior Brenda Roy (11). "I cannot believe how much the team has improved," Crawley said.



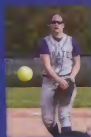
Concentrated on the play, Junior Kaitlynn Sterkowitz stands ready to catch the ball. "Having different competition makes the game more interesting," Sterkowitz said.

### terminology of the field.



**bunt:** a legally batted ball not swung at, but intentionally tapped with the bat, usually attempted to advance a runner already on base

**strike zone:** the space over home plate between the batter's forward armpit and the top of the knees



**stolen base:** the advance of a runner to the next base without the aid of a base hit, a putout, a fielding error, a passed ball or a wild pitch

### SOFTBALL

| Opponent      | Score | W/L |
|---------------|-------|-----|
| Gavitt        | 9-8   | W   |
| Lowell        | 9-0   | L   |
| Griffith      | 4-0   | L   |
| Bishop Noll   | 3-0   | L   |
| Michigan City | 13-0  | L   |
| Hebron        | 5-4   | L   |
| Creston Point | 16-0  | L   |
| Penn Pointe   | 5-1   | L   |
| Laf. Jct.     | 5-0   | L   |
| Niles         | 5-0   | L   |
| Penn          | 12-0  | L   |
| Lake Central  | 18-2  | L   |
| Portage       | 6-0   | L   |
| Valparaiso    | 6-5   | L   |
| Chesterton    | 13-0  | L   |
| LaPorte       | 14-0  | L   |
| KV            | 7-4   | L   |
| KV            | 14-7  | W   |
| Michigan City | 8-4   | W   |
| Creston Point | 14-1  | L   |
| Lake Central  | 4-0   | L   |
| Portage       | 8-3   | L   |
| Valparaiso    | 14-1  | L   |
| Chesterton    | 7-3   | L   |
| LaPorte       | 9-0   | L   |
| Andrean       | 6-0   | L   |
| Boone Grove   | 9-7   | L   |
| Sectional     |       |     |
| Michigan City | 5-0   | L   |

DAC: 1-13  
OVERALL: 3-24





### Varsity Softball

Coach Carolina Procter

Front row: Gabriela Ponce, Jennifer Crawley, Brenda Roy, Mercedes McClandon, Latol Meriweather; Second row: Katalin Lundberg-Armstrong, Natellie Riechers, Kallie Domikaitis, Lindsey Mitchell, Sarah Williams, Chelsee Oyervides; Back row: Assistant Coach Stephanie Nelson, Kaitlynn Sterkowitz, Coach Carolina Procter, Sarah Moson, Manager Sha Free Jackson.



### Junior Varsity Softball

Coach Jacob Stafford

Front row: Stephanie Husek, Samantha Tomb, Ashley Ahlborn, Dantelle Abel, Inesha Smith, Lauren Kiser; Second row: Nichole Anderson, Katherine Kolbert, Britteny Bass, Amanda Baneshak, Lauren Blackwell, Jordann Metthys, Jessica Martin; Back row: Assistant Coach Mark Reid, Henna Webster, Jeanette Burbage, Coach Jacob Stafford, Mia Patikas, Sydney Herold, Manager Lesley Richerds.



### Girls' Tennis

Coach James Simon

Front row: Nichole McFarland, Lee Neligan, Eleny Bablonie, Kelsey Sajdera, Ashley Witkowski, Amber Medwetz, Ashley Cherry, Sylvia Suggs; Second row: Lauren Carnielli, Morgan Lamb, Briana DeCaussemaker, Candice Lambert, Tiffany Lee, Lauren Lambert, Jennifer Tucker, Hannelore Reynolds; Back row: Coach Kim Neopinski, Kelsey Barrick, Allison Kirby, Allison Varela, Julie Hays, Angela Reynolds, Kelsey Washburn, Ana Adame, Coach James Simon.



### Varsity Baseball

Coach Mark Ciesielski

Front row: Darren Blaylock, Xavier Ponce, Nicholas Feliciano, Kenneth Wright, Ryan Stokes, Joel VanWinkle; Second row: Kyle Strom, Colin Schaefer, Eric Davis, Donald Cox, Christopher Knight, Zachary Forsell; Back row: Coach John Kwiatkowski, Coach Brad Schulte, Kevin Schroeder, Michael McNeil, Timothy Leitch, Coach Mark Ciesielski, Manager Samantha Serweck.



### Junior Varsity Baseball

Coach Anthony Hofer

Front row: Darren Blaylock, Paxton Barlanga, Brandon Smith, Rodney Trigg; Second row: Autry Phillips, Kyle Strom, Christopher Knight, Alex Quijano; Back row: Kyle Daniels, Coach Anthony Hofer, Zachary Respopovich.



### Boys' Golf

Coach David Hinkel

Front row: Leonard Mathews II, Arlen Sims, Michael Gillia; Second row: Steven Cregue, Joshua Belko, Malik Muhammed, Stephen Carnielli, Sean Penning; Back row: Gregory Phillips, Matthew Neese, Francis Merisovic.



spring



### Boys' Track

Coach Jim Johnston

Front row: Cashmere Jones, Peter Bertenga, Zachary Sandefur, David Jordan, Merrell Baldwin, Skylar Rothgeb, Ian Fultz, Christian Echols, Demetrius Morris, Dylan Crane, Darryl Peppers, Payton Parker; Second row: Jaylen Bentley, Kyle Schroeder, Keith Pavlish, Dallas Wilson, James Posey, Cori Harris, Caleb Pirtle, Rehim Conwell, Arrell Ross-Williams, Logan Hubbard, Francis Duak, Jonethan Harmon, Sean Lewis, Ryan Roddy; Third row: Luis Padilla, Korey Smith, Darlen Gornick, Sanchez Teja, Dylan Harrison, Roman Harper, Brandon Taylor, Landau Lang, William Laws, Cameron Mitchell, Adam Sorowski, Eric Block, Brandon Culver, Jarvis Wildemass, Philip Hays; Fourth row: Brian West, Elliot Parker, Milton Davis, Darius Holland, Adonis Madry, Joshua Washington, Elbryn Goode, Christopher Bradley, Tyron Brown, Jory Cunningham, Joshua Perry, Jacob Coddick, Trent Turner; Fifth row: Chris Stojanowski, Christopher Vele, Cecil Frink, Juan Ayala, Kelly Wiggins, Elijah Samuels, Justin Patterson, Keon Jones, Kourtney Berry, Louis Craig, Valenti Atsas, Kevin Ceruana, David Freeman, Tyler Roark; Sixth row: Derrick Hutton-Kinsey, Byron Ferrell, Paul Carey, Harold Turner, Ashton Cole, Daniel McGee, Melvin Davis, Ron Crosby-Greene, Keith Dockery, Eric Herzog, Hugo Hemmen, Joaquin Muro, Jamel Williams, David Cross; Back row: Carl Jones Jr., Dontarius Williams, John Mosley, Coach Grace Dewald, Coach Brian Past, Coach Louis Lopez, Coach Jim Johnston, Coach Ben Daniel, Coach Jeff Fairbairn, Coach Aaron Crown, Coach Jeff Eaton, Timothy Moore, Julius Scroggins.



### Girls' Track

Coach Jeff Eaton

Front row: Yakee Lomax, Maria Martinez, Keonisha Ferguson, Brianna Thompson, Brianna Clark, Malenie Ortiz, Danice Carbajal, Ashley Finch; Second row: Morgan Taylor, Ava Moux, Cristian Washington, Brechey White, Laryssa Barrera, Chaunice Smith, Dora Martin-Elliott, Osha Brownlee, Jenzyl Burdan, Broyna Russ, Daniella Carbajal; Third row: Alicia Vaulx, Jasmine Yarbrow, Tanee Williams, Amber Scollon, Valeria Bly, Natalie Warren, Aubrey Cowser, Natasha Poellnitz, Shyrenna Conwell, Dion'Dra Anderson, Jucila Best; Fourth row: Jendayne Adams, Talisha Abrams, Melissa Eggleston, Brigida Preciado, Shermika Winston, Bianca Portis, Spree Lang, Rachel Paul, Yesenia Vazquez, Rashonda Brooks, Lo'real Robinson, Morgan Walton; Fifth row: Coach Brian Past, Coach Grace DeWald, Mia Muhammed, Michelle Ross, Jaleesa Holmes, Alexandra Domaras, Nakel McClinton, Rebecca Neville, Ne'Shell Mitchell, Angelique Jernigan, LaShewnta Taylor, Sherie Paul, Coach Ben Daniel, Coach Jeff Eaton; Back row: Coach Jim Johnston, Coach Luis Lopez, Arlen Taylor, Melissa Warren, Megan Dicken, Tiera Simpson, Kayla Wiggins, Eva Foley, Kacey Cole, Ashley Jamerson, Jasmine Ervin, Coach Jeff Fairbairn, Coach Aaron Crown.

sports.





Athletic trainers play an important role in the success of sports teams when it comes to keeping the players in their best physical conditions.

"It's an important job. Many athletes have injuries, some serious, and without the trainers, many athletes would not be participating in their sport," Senior Mallory Lancaster said.

Athletic trainers specialize in the prevention, treatment and healing of muscle injuries.

Trainers are the first health care providers on the scene when injuries occur; therefore, they must be able to recognize and assess injuries efficiently and effectively.

To be a student trainer, it is recommended that the

student takes the athletic training class to learn the skills necessary to provide immediate care when needed. Student trainers do not get paid for their work. They are expected to attend all football games

**'... without the trainers, many athletes would not be participating in their sport.'**  
Mallory Lancaster

and practices. The student trainers support all sports, but football season is the focal point of the year.

Though it is a lot of work and very time consuming, becoming an athletic trainer is something students choose to do, whether it is for fun

or something the student is considering as a possible future career choice.

"Being an athletic trainer had a major impact on my career choice," Senior Michelle Ross said. "I am now going to major in athletic training in addition to elementary education."

The student trainers leave the training room with new ways to deal with stressful situations in a calm manner. They finish the season with numerous memories and knowledge gained through experience.

"If I had to describe the season, I would say it was a learning experience," Senior Tylar Davis said. "Looking from the outside it might look like we didn't do much, but we were constantly learning stuff we didn't know."

Among her duties as a trainer, Junior Xochitl Logan prepares her ice. "This is the easy stuff, like the ice and stem. The hard stuff is wrapping. I haven't mastered that yet," Logan said. Logan takes comfort in the assistance she receives from the other trainers.



With one year of athletic training knowledge and experience to guide her, Senior Tiffany Leicht uses medical pre-wrap to tape Junior Theresa Yugo's ankle. Leicht hopes to minor in sports medicine. "I love the medical part of it all, but I hate the feet," Leicht said when referring to applying the medical wrap on athletes.

Keeping busy in the athletic training room during the winter season, Junior Xochitl Logan tapes Senior gymnast Arien Taylor's ankle for support and prevention of injuries. "I like being a trainer. It keeps me busy," Logan said. Logan has been involved with athletics as a manager during football season. Logan is now a trainer for the winter sports season. She plans to return as an athletic trainer next year as a senior, participating during the winter season alone.



*saving the game.*



76

Senior Tylar Davis and Sophomore Andrea Campos



Senior Tiffany Leicht



Seniors Mallory Lancaster and Michelle Ross



While passing out water bottles, Senior Jessica Petalas stops to watch the game. Petalas has been an athletic trainer for football season all four years that she has attended Merrillville High School. Student trainers during football season stay along the sidelines during football games. Trainers must remain close to the action in case of an injury or emergency. "I love being so close to the game, and I really like the sport," Petalas said.



Focused on taping an ankle, Senior Tiffany Leicht gets the job done. "This has been a big priority. I try to help when I can," Leicht said. Leicht is present at many events which require trainers to help take care of the athletes. "I wish I would have done it all four years. I love it," Leicht said.



Carrying water bottles and towels, Seniors Michelle Ross and Mallory Lancaster help keep the players hydrated during a time-out. "Being an athletic trainer was really fun. I definitely would have been a trainer freshman year if I could," Ross said. Athletic trainers are needed during all sports seasons. Ross and Lancaster participated in athletic training during the 2008 football season.

Sophomore Hannah Webster

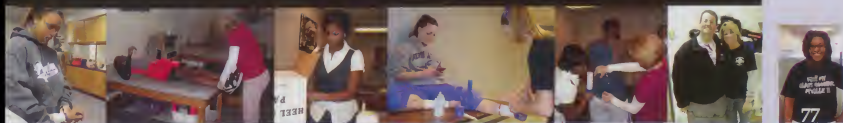
Athletic Trainer Ms. Sue Hayes and Senior Keon Jones

Junior Xochitl Logan

Sophomore Chantell Hill and Senior Tiffany Leicht

Athletic Trainer Ms. Sue Hayes and Junior Xochitl Logan

Athletic Trainers Mr. Sean Hudson and Ms. Sue Hayes







## get concern.

Homecoming games, dances and community projects. High school wouldn't be the same without the extra events and the clubs members who organize them. Many students get involved outside of academics and make the best of their high school years by helping the community, socializing with others who share their beliefs and participating in their activities. Clubs and activities allow students to learn beyond the classroom. Benjamin Franklin said it best: "Tell me and I forget. Teach me and I remember. Involve me and I learn."



# key club.

Key Club devotes much of its time to giving back to the community in various ways throughout the school year. One major event that Key Club co-sponsors is the Chili Cook-off every spring in order to raise money for people who are suffering from lupus.

"We spent time getting donations for the auction baskets, an hour after school on Friday to decorate and seven hours on Saturday to work the event," Senior Nolan Solomon said.

There were 20 contestants who set up their own unique displays around the cafeteria in order to attract spectators to try their chili.

"It was neat because we all dressed up

in costumes that described the theme of our chili," Senior Tyler Roark said.

This year's event had a large turnout of 325 spectators and ended up raising a total of \$4,600 which is \$500 more profit than the previous year.

"I was very happy about the turnout because we normally only get about 200 participants and this year we attracted 100 more people than last year," Solomon said.

Due to the large amount raised Key Club was able to make a good contribution to the Lupus Foundation.

"I am very glad that I joined Key Club because it is great to help the community and I also developed better leadership skills and met a lot of new people," Solomon said.



Hot dogs, pop and water were on sale at the concession stand during the annual Chili Cook-off, co-sponsored by Key Club and the Lupus Foundation. Ms. Taylor Grant, Lt. Gov. of the Dandelion Division of the Key Club, talks with Senior Nolan Solomon, Key Club vice president and Junior Sarah Martin, Key Club president. Senior Kenneth Albee, representing the National Honor Society, works with Key Club Secretary, Senior Amanda Spudis, to collect money.



At Key Club's Annual Chili Cook-off friends and families had the chance to interact and participate. "The theme of our chili was a Hawaiian theme and the name of our chili was Get Lai'd Chili which included pineapples as an ingredient," Senior Matthew McClendon said.



## Key Club

Sponsor Mrs. Carrie Bedwell  
Front row: Amanda Spudis, Alexis Connelly, Melissa Warren, Hannah Webster, Lauren Kiser;  
Second row: Ken Davis, Nolan Solomon, Jeanne Saffrahn, Gregory Phillips; Back row: Mrs. Carrie Bedwell, Lesley Richards; Not pictured: Sarah Martin, Kaitlyn Banashak, Raevyn Harper.



## class of '09.



### Class of 2009 Officers

Sponsors Mr. James Stamper, Mrs. Debbie Klippel and Mr. Jason Hostetler  
Front row: Brianna Clark, Michael Sandridge, Caitlyn Spires, Hannelore Reynolds.

## class of '10.



### Class of 2010 Officers

Sponsor Mrs. Rae Lopez  
Front row: Lakeshia Miles, Najeb Arifee, Amber Medwetz.

## class of '11.



### Class of 2011 Officers

Sponsor Mr. Anthony Hoyer  
Front row: Ken Davis, Alyson Austin, Daniel Armstrong.

## class of '12.



### Class of 2012 Officers

Sponsor Mr. Kari Regan  
Front row: Dean Davis, Jeanette Burbage, Spree Lang, Mansoor Ahmed



# student government.



"The Wish List provides things that unfortunate families don't have for the holidays," Senior Hanni Reynolds said. On the final day of the Wish List project, Reynolds helps load the gifts that will be sent to the elementary schools on to the buses. This year was Reynolds's fourth and final time participating in this event. "The experience is so rewarding, especially because the children are incredibly happy to see us," Reynolds said.



With their arms loaded with festive holiday paper, Junior Decon Burton and Senior Ray Lewis prepare to wrap presents for the Student Government Wish List. "The Wish List is such an important event because it gives the children hope and lets them know that someone cares about them," Burton said. After about one month of preparation, the members were able to pull everything together to make the event a success. "Everyone really came together and worked hard to make it work," Burton said.



While she focuses on wrapping gifts, Junior Amber Scollon anticipates delivering the presents. "The sight of the children's faces makes all the work worth while. It is such a good feeling to help out and give back to less fortunate kids," Scollon said.



## Student Government Executive Board

Sponsor Mr. Nicholas Petralia  
Front row: Ava Meux, Keiko Cooley, Brionna Walker, Ashley Hite. Back row: Daniel Gronli, Juan Rivera, Mr. Nicholas Petralia.



Government students do not lack the fun that is included in all of its activities.

"I'm really looking forward to the upcoming fieldtrip. I'm sure it'll be a lot of fun," Senior President Brianna Clark said.

As Class President, Clark is in charge of organizing events and presenting ideas for fundraising throughout the year.

Along with Clark, Reynolds plays a big role as the Class Vice President.

"Brianna Clark and I work together coming up with senior social activities and senior activities, like the Baccalaureate and Senior Breakfast. I am also in charge of assigning committees to each event," Reynolds said.

Each event is made possible not only by the class officers, but those involved with Student Government and those willing to make a change within their school and their community. Whether it be sponsoring a family fun fair, organizing a dance or collecting food to distribute to the needy, Student Government students work to make a difference wherever they can.

From school to community, students in Student Government perform acts of charity.

Senior Vice President Hanni Reynolds said there are many things that Student Government does around the community and for the school.

"We do a lot of fundraising for the Senior Class. We took care of the Christmas Wish List. We also were in charge of the Thanksgiving food drive," Reynolds said.

Along with charity work for the community, Student Government also takes part in sponsoring different activities within school.

Along with the Senior Class, underclassmen also take part to help out.

"I have been a part of Student Government for two years and it's a lot of fun helping set up for dances and helping out in the community," Sophomore Victor Rios said. "I was in Mr. Petralia's class freshman year and he asked me if I wanted to join. I wanted to be a part of something and make a difference, so once I joined I liked it and stuck with it," Rios added.

While working hard and contributing a lot to others, Student



## Student Government

Sponsor Mr. Nicholas Petralia  
Front row: Amber Medwetz, Ava Muex, Keiko Cooley, Andrew King, Lakeshia Miles, Cha'ya Eddie, Brionna Walker; Second row: Tanisha Miles, Hannelore Reynolds, Devon Burton, Amber Scollon, Jamie Roberts, Ashley Hite, Jillian Larson; Back row: Daniel Armstrong, Daniel Gronli, Ken Davis, Elijah Samuels, Juan Rivera, Sean Gibson, Mr. Nicholas Petralia.

# exploring world cultures.



## Sponsor Mr. Al Stoner

First row: Tanya Riveron, Nicole Tarulis, Sabrina Smith-Griggs, Andrea Stevenson, Daniel Armstrong; Second row: Leeanna Meeker, Kevin McGee, Jonathan Shannon, Michelle Minard, Daniel Gronli, Michael Sweet; Back row: Olljuwan Bates, Michael Rhoades, Dylan Roberts, Marley Whittaker, Konstantinos Matzaris, Mr. Al Stoner. Not pictured: Rachel Drapeau, Zachary Swierc.



## Sponsor Ms. Irene Spiro

Front row: Marissa Novak, Kathleen Baran, Courtney Bargfeldt, Lakeshia Miles, Kirsten Koharchik, Alexis Connelly; Second row: Alyson Austin, Heather Mihal, Rachel Drapeau, Amber Scollon, Samantha Murphy; Third row: Heather Kiel, Kimberly Coates, Jacob Kopf, Courtney Jones, Korey Loudermilk; Back row: Gregory Phillips, Ms. Irene Spiro, Francis Maritsovic, Tyler Roark. Not pictured: Brandon Taylor.



## Sponsor Mr. Al Stoner

Front row: Michelle Battle, Dane Ezernack, Larry Cooper, Mr. Al Stoner; Back row: Dylan Roberts, Nathan Koenemann.





Under the direction of Spanish teacher Ms. Esmeralda Palmerin, Freshman Crystal Quintero learns a new dance. "It was very interesting to learn something new from the Spanish culture," Quintero said.

Next in line for the piñata, Freshman Christian Williams waits his turn. This is Williams' first year taking French. "All of my friends were taking Spanish, so I decided to be different," Williams said.



After all the festivities, world language club members pose for a group picture. "It was a really fun experience to try all the new foods," Junior Konstantinos Matzaris said.



World language teachers Mr. Al Stoner, Ms. Irene Spino, Mrs. Mary Ann Bertan and Ms. Esmeralda Palmerin work with students after class to introduce them to world cultures.



Trying foods from around the world, Seniors Kevin McGee, Junior Marley Whittaker and Senior Michael Sweet sample the different foods at the potluck. "Besides eating, we sang Christmas carols in the different languages," Sweet said.





Junior Allison Kish exchanges t-shirts with an athlete from another school at an MPAC conference. "The Fun Fair was interesting because it was my first year participating, and there were a lot of children who got involved, but I influence others to get involved by telling them to make the right choices and decisions," Kish said.



Members of the football team set up an obstacle course for the youngsters to navigate. "The kids liked the obstacle course because it involved running, but it was fun working with the little kids," Junior Monte Brown, who was a first-time participant in the Fun Fair, said.

"Being a representative, I get the chance to talk to younger children about different sports they can join," Senior Kelsey Barrick said. MPAC members not only have the responsibility of being athletes, but they also serve as role models for younger students. Barrick sits for the dunk tank during the annual Fun Fair for youngsters hosted by the Athletic Department.



"Working with Ms. (Joni) Qualizza and getting involved with the core group of athletes is the best part about being in MPAC because we have the choice to decide what we can do to enhance athletic enrollment," Senior Kate Tarr said. Tarr reads an announcement encouraging sportsmanship before a home basketball



"We played games that corresponded to wrestling, and the kids really enjoyed it," Senior William Costakis said. The wrestling obstacle course showed younger children a little bit about wrestling.



To encourage players and fans to practice good sportsmanship and respect, Senior Romeo Harper reads a script prepared by members of MPAC before a home basketball game. "To be a part of MPAC makes me feel like a good athlete and makes me want to continue to keep up the good work," Harper said.



# mpac

Leadership, dedication, commitment, hard work and Pirate pride are some qualities of a Merrillville Pirate Athletic Council member.

"MPAC is a leadership organization that a coach chooses one senior and one junior from the sport they represent. They are chosen based on their leadership on the team, and also in the athletic program," Athletic Director Ms. Janis Qualizza said.

MPAC aims to increase the involvement in athletics. They host and participate in many events that influence children to join sports earlier. Many MPAC members make this their personal goal.

"My goal this year is to get more people involved in sports," Senior Brian West said.

MPAC participates in many activities throughout the school year that benefit students by getting them involved in sports. They also participate in events benefiting the community.

"We participate in the Chili Cook-off, assemble a Fun Fair for younger kids, speak at basketball games about sportsmanship and also buy gifts for two children for Christmas," Ms. Qualizza said.

"Every summer around June, I've participated in the Leadership IHSA conference in Indianapolis for the past two years. I help get more ideas to help out the athletic program," Senior Kate Tarr said.

"The best part about MPAC is helping work with Ms. Qualizza and make decisions about what makes athletics better," Tarr added.



## MPAC

Sponsor Ms. Janis Qualizza

Front row: Katelynn Usher, Daniella Carbalaj, Aubrey Cowser, Kelsey Sajdera, Kate Tarr, Nathan Riechers, Francis Dusk, Kelsey Barrick; Second row: Emily Kurczynski, Michelle Ross, Tiffany Robertson, Melissa Warren, Bryonna Davis, Tierra Turner, Kendall Borick; Third row: Anthony Napoles, Emilija Stojova, Ryan Stokes, Francis Marisovic, Tiera Simpson, Romeo Harper, Stephen Camello; Back row: Jacob Caddick, Landau Lang, Kevin Schroeder, Sanchez Tate, Jacob Pavel. Not Pictured: William Costakis Jr.



# stand

Promoting an appreciation for diversity through community service, social togetherness and national diversity are the key building blocks for STAND. Socially Together And Naturally Diverse.

"My goal this year for STAND is to make a positive difference in our school. There is so much good going throughout this school we can contribute to make it better," Sponsor Danny Lackey said.

"I chose to be in STAND to help the school and the community in a creative and positive way," Director of Leadership Junior Pauline Laorden said.

STAND focused on many events this year: the Youth Workshop, Freshman Mentor Program, International Coffee House and Clothing Drive. Also, the event that

stood out this year was the Martin Luther King Day Inspirational Brunch, which was held on January 17.

"We reached out not only for the schools, but we also reached out to the people in the community," Director of Alumni Senior Keshia Mathis said.

"We had a big turnout. The Voices of Reason sang. We also had lots of music, skits and a bunch of food," Mr. Lackey said.

Being in STAND creates many new memories and friendships.

"The best parts about STAND are the bonds within our program. It's a family-like atmosphere," Mathis added.

"I like being able to work with and meet people through community service," Laorden said.



During the annual Clothing Drive, STAND member Senior Ryan Roddy and other STAND members sort through clothes given to the clothing drive. STAND has a goal: serve everyone's needs. Senior Ryan Roddy said.

The best part about being in STAND is knowing that I'm helping the community and knowing people who I love and the staff is just an amazing group. It's just inspiring. Junior Britney Castelli said. Castelli helped with a fundraiser for the Anti-Defamation League during the STAND event. I found STAND because it was a fundraiser for the Anti-Defamation League and I did community service, and I like to help others. I got to be a part of it. I was all of that. Castelli said.



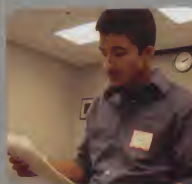
During the annual Anti-Defamation League (ADL) event, Senior Britney Castelli and other STAND members sort through clothes given to the clothing drive. STAND has a goal: serve everyone's needs. Senior Ryan Roddy said.



While they act out a skit about bullying, Senior Ryan Roddy, Junior Pauline Laorden and Senior Ryan Roddy build their leadership skills. "This year we acted out skits about bullying from the Anti-Defamation League. I found that the training series was very useful. It was a fun way for members to negotiate the issues about bullying and other. It was a great experience. The members have been in training on negotiation of deep discussion, making personal goals, and STAND sponsor Mr. Danny Lackey said.



During the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) event, Senior Britney Castelli and other STAND members sort through clothes given to the clothing drive. STAND has a goal: serve everyone's needs. Senior Ryan Roddy said.



## STAND

Sponsor Mr. Danny Lackey  
Front row: Ryan Roddy, Ronald McMillan, Courtney Givens, Keshia Mathis, Britney Castelli, Eli Vazquez; Second row: Brianna Collins, Taylor Carter, Brittany Jones, BreAnn Pulphus, Christine Peden, Mark Campbell; Third row: Stephanie Miller, Monique McMillan, Shermika Winston, Amber Scollon, Jamie Roberts, Samantha Murphy; Fourth row: Joshua Stacker, Nicholas Vimbaco, Romeo Harper, Jacob Kopf, Derek Shea, Brandon Taylor, Jose Gonzalez; Back row: Edwin Smith, Rah-Kimm Cherry, Lance Robinson, Antonio Ross, Johnathan Wallace, Mr. Danny Lackey.

I felt I made a difference because saving a life is always making a difference," Senior Jessica Aldridge said. "Giving blood has shown me there are people in the world that are less fortunate than me and need my help, and if it was me, I would want the same in return," Aldridge said.

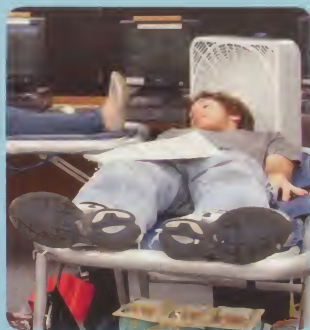


helping the community.



With a calm look on his face, Junior Allen Amtoelau was "trying to get through the process, even though afterwards I felt sleepy, dizzy and less energetic," Amtoelau said.

saving lives.



A first-time blood donor, Senior Eric Terry relaxes as he waits for blood to be drawn. "I would definitely give blood again. The process allowed me to be more aware on the need for giving blood," Terry said.



fccla.

Two blood drives and two dances keep the members of Family, Consumer and Career Leaders of America (FCCLA) busy.

Sponsored by Family and Consumer Sciences teacher Ms. Carol Von Behren, FCCLA students develop leadership skills through these activities at the high school as well as district, state and national level conferences.

Junior Amber Medwetz is one of the presidents of the club. "It's a lot more work than I thought it was going to be, but I'm glad I joined. Just knowing I touched a person's life makes me feel like a good citizen," Medwetz said.

FCCLA members work with Heartland Blood Center to sponsor two blood drives each year. "One is in December, when there is always a severe shortage of blood due to the holidays," Ms. Von Behren said. The other is in March. In the 2008-09 school year, students donated 128 units during the December drive.

About 100 special education students from five local schools enjoyed dancing at the Inclusion Dance during the Valentine's Day weekend. The work for the FCCLA

students didn't stop on Thursday. The next night, they sponsored the Freshman-Sophomore Winter Formal when about 120 students enjoyed a DJ with a big-screen TV. Dorian Pickett was selected Freshman Dance Queen and Stephanie Lobody was selected Sophomore Dance Queen.

"Our Krispy Kreme fundraisers covered the cost of the Inclusion Dance, the refreshments, the gift bags, the door prizes and the photos, since this is a free dance for the special needs students," Ms. Von Behren noted.

"This is my first year and I love it. I have lots of fun helping other people," Junior Alexis Connelly said. "I joined because there was low participation and also due to my friends joining. So I said, 'Why not,'" Junior Shannon Wood said.

The 20 active FCCLA members are eligible for scholarships through their involvement in community service activities, such as the blood drives, dances and state competitions in career and technical areas. Co-presidents are Juniors Amber Medwetz and Jillian Larson. Co-secretaries are Juniors Kimberly Coates and Kathleen Baran.



Family, Career and Consumer Leaders of America

Sponsor Ms. Carol Von Behren

Front row: Kathleen Baran, Sabrina Abrams, Amber Medwetz, Sarah Martin, Lakeshia Miles; Second row: Cha'ya Eddie, Kirsten Koharchik, Alexis Connelly, Jillian Larson; Back row: Kimberly Coates, Ryan Malone, Aubrey Cowser, Julie Hays.

fea.

Students interested in the field of education find a home in the Future Educators of America organization that social studies teacher Mr. James Stamper sponsors.

Club members participate in many activities, including Bowl for Kids. More than 100 people enjoyed an evening of bowling at Stardust Lanes in Merrillville and raised \$3,000. That money is earmarked for scholarships that FEA awards at the end of the school year.

FEA's Future Educator Award is a merit-based scholarship and the committee selects scholarship

winners based on high school grades, recommendations, community service, leadership skills and extracurricular activities. In 2008, seven students earned scholarship money that was applied toward their tuition.

Because of the flooding that devastated the area in September, Mr. Stamper called on his FEA members to assist the senior class in a relief effort. "They helped more than 20 families in the area in the course of six weekends," Mr. Stamper said.

In the spring, students also job shadow teachers in the elementary, intermediate and middle schools.



teaching the youth



marine biology.

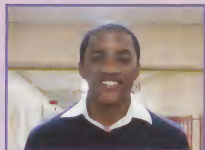


*Marine Biology*  
Sponsor Mr. Jeff Yelton  
Front row: Kirsten Koharchik, Spreg Lang; Back row: Mr. Yelton, Elbryn Goode, Dylan Ceta



providing opportunities.





*"When I bowl, I tell myself that we have a talent and we need to take advantage of it."*

Senior  
Brandon Taylor



*"As I'm bowling, I try to stay strong and win this one for the team."*

commitment.



*"During a match, I try to think of every single frame as a game in itself."*

Senior  
Erin Marek

dedication.



Girls' Bowling Team

Coaches David Larson and Paula Larson  
Front row: Sarah MacDonald, Brenda Pidgeon, Jillian Larson, Robin Williamson, Caitlyn Kotul; Back row: Coach David Larson, Erin Marek, Erin Weiss, Elizabeth Weiss, Kimberly Coates, Coach Paula Larson.



# bowling.

Bowling can be exciting, hard work, or even something that may offer some security, Senior Erin Marek believes.

"Bowling is just something that makes me feel secure. It somehow makes me feel kind of safe in a way," Marek said.

Bowling is a team sport. Without everyone coming together and

helping one another, the bowling team would not be successful.

"When you are a part of something that is bigger than yourself. Working together is a must if you want to get anywhere. It has also taught me to cooperate with other people," Marek said.

Bowling Coach Mrs. Paula Larson sees high school bowling as something that should never be forgotten.

"There is just nothing in the world like bowling in high school. You just never see so many people come together and work as a team to accomplish one common goal. It's just the best experience anyone could have," Mrs. Larson said.

Even though the teams have gone far, there still are some setbacks. The teams have to raise their own money to be able to participate in bowling.

"The fact that we have to raise money is kind of a setback for the team. Instead of being able to fully enjoy the experience, we are scrambling trying to get money together, but in the end it all pays off," Mrs. Larson said.

Trust is a key factor of a bowling team.

"In order to be successful, it takes a strong and trustworthy team that gets together to get as far as we have," Mrs. Larson said.

Mr. Terrell Taylor coaches the boys' team. The girls' bowling team has advanced to semi-state.



The bowling teams bond with each other.



Boys' Bowling Team

Coach Terrell Taylor

Front row: Scott Gedda, Tyler Shockey, Jamal Thomas, Skylar Rothgeb, Sean Schafer; Back row: Nicholus Schuffert, Dwight Wright, Tyler Harris, Brandon Taylor, Aaron Curtis, Zachary DeRolf, Coach Terrell Taylor.



# nhs.

## 2008 walk-a-thon.

Students who display academic excellence and leadership while in school are invited to join the National Honor Society.

In order for students to be considered for NHS, some requirements have to be met. The students must have a 3.5 GPA or above, they must have a teacher recommendation, they must also display some type of leadership and they must be committed to being service-oriented.

"To get into the National Honor Society, I kept my grades up and stayed out of trouble," Senior James Manis said.

People of NHS do many things. They participate in group service projects, such as the Walk-A-Thon. Some of the students also work at homeless shelters.

"I think that these special service projects help the students see that there are other people who need help. I think it helps them realize how fortunate they are," Sponsor Mrs. Patrice Weil said.

Many of the students enjoy helping out their communities and students of their school.

"I really like the Walk-A-Thon because it helps to raise money for the Special Needs Department," Senior Sanam El-Quesney said.

Mrs. Weil said she hopes that through NHS, the students who are selected become productive members of society.

"I hope that helping people who are in need becomes a part of who the students are," Mrs. Weil said.

The induction ceremony takes place in the auditorium the first Sunday in March.



During a cold December day, Seniors Caitlyn Spires and Michelle Ross take a break after a few laps around the track. "It was the walk-a-thon, and because I'm on the National Honor Society board, I had to go, but I didn't mind," Spires said. Each walker was required to take 13 laps. "If I could go back to the walk-a-thon, I'd wear an extra pair of pants," Spires said to emphasize the temperature. Spires and Ross joined 38 NHS members and 17 teachers and administrators in walking and raising \$1264 for students in the Special Needs Department. "We exceeded our goal by \$164," NHS sponsor Mrs. Patrice Weil said, "and had 13 more participants than last year."

Senior Sanam El-Quesney gets a free ride atop the shoulders of Senior Desmond Jones during the annual National Honor Society walk-a-thon on the track around the soccer field. Most of the money raised came from people who sponsored the walkers. Several local businesses, including Terry Brothers, The Stallings Group and Quality Home Repair made donations. The Athletic Department and Ms. Sue Kendera also donated money.



these shoes are made for walking.



### National Honor Society

Sponsor Mrs. Patrice Weil

Front row: J'nal Dickerson, Caitlyn Kotul, Paloma Escalante, Sanam El-Quesney, Krysten Koharchik, Anel Valenzuela, Arika Ivery, Courtney Bargfeldt. Second row: Romeo Harper, Amanda Spudis, Alyssa Brindley, Cora Boender, Michelle Ross, Jennifer Tucker, Katherine Sadural, Caitlyn Spires, Mrs. Patrice Weil. Third row: Desmond Jones, Lindsay Mendez, Mallory Lancaster, Brittany Mendoza, Emilija Stojova, Lesley Richards, Brandon Taylor, Gregory Phillips, Matthew Nathan. Back row: Markeli Baldwin, James Manis, Kenny Albee, Tyler Roark, Cody Niles, Kevin O'Neill, Taylor Douglas, Nolan Solomon, Eric Terry.

"The fact that I got to walk with my friends for a good cause made the walk-a-thon memorable for me," Senior Christopher Crawford said. He walks with Senior Courtney Bargfeldt around the track in what was windy, rainy and cold weather. "We went through a lot of coffee and hot chocolate," NHS sponsor Mrs. Patrice Weil said.



Ten events — with objective tests in English, math, science, economics, fine arts, science, plus a super quiz speech, interview and essay — based on Mexico and evolution. This was the challenge before members of the Academic Decathlon team.

They began preparing in August, meeting twice a week for 90 minutes, reading, summarizing and discussing the study materials.

"The worst part is how much you have to study. It takes 100 percent dedication, and you have to put a lot of time in it," Senior Eric Terry said.

During a competition, Terry blocks out everything and focuses in on what is in front of him and does the best that he can.

When the Duneland Area Competition was held at Gavitt High School January 24, the team finished strong, but missed state qualifications by a small margin.

"Unfortunately, we were not competing with a complete team, which significantly impacted our scores," Sponsor Ms. Rachel Bateman said. "However, the team maintained a positive attitude, and they set personal goals."

## academic decathlon.



### Academic Decathlon

Sponsors Ms. Rachel Bateman and Mrs. Kira Healy

Front row: Devon Burton, Ms. Rachel Bateman, Lauren Carnielli, Courtney L. Jones; Second row: Najeb Arifee, Mansoor Arifee, Zachary Swierc; Back row: Ryan Malone, Brandon Taylor.

The 60-second clock begins ticking once the question is asked. Like Jeopardy, they must be the first to buzz in with the right answer. Four members make up a team, with alternates able to switch between rounds. Unlike many other competitions, there is no way to prepare for Quiz Bowl competitions. In this academic competition, students are quizzed on their general knowledge. Quiz Bowl questions can come from any subject in the high school curriculum as well as current events, sports and pop culture. "You can't prepare for Quiz Bowl. There are just random questions. So you just have to watch the news or look up current events," Freshman Mansoor Arifee said.

"It's really all a lot of random knowledge," Sponsor Mr. Jay Sonnenberg said.

During the competitions, Arifee had to learn to be more patient.

"If you buzz in too early, you automatically lose the points," Arifee said. Quiz Bowl runs from December to early March.

"We just missed going to state this year," Mr. Sonnenberg added. "We finished sixth in the Duneland Conference."

## quiz bowl.



### Quiz Bowl

Sponsor Mr. Jay Sonnenberg

Front row: Mansoor Arifee, Sarah Martin, Sabrina Smith-Griggs, Courtney Jones; Second row: LaVontecia Gist, Blair McDaniel, Rachel Grapean; Back row: Zachary Swierc, Kenny Albee, Najeb Arifee.



# super bowl.



## Academic Super Bowl

Sponsors Mrs. Evelyn Steiner and Mr. Rob Bedwell

Front row: Mansor Arifee, Sarah Martin, Mrs. Evelyn Steiner, Courtney L. Jones; Second row: Alyssa Nymeyer, LaVontecia Gist, Rachel Drapeau; Back row: Zachary Swierc, Mr. Rob Bedwell, Najeb Arifee

The 2008-09 Academic Super Bowl team was faced with an unusual and uncommon topic — Norse culture. They began studying in the fall, and by April, they were ready to be tested in five subject areas: science, social studies, English, fine arts and mathematics. Armed with study guides, the science team studied Norse navigation and the English team studied "Beowulf." Fine Arts students became versed in the instruments used by the Norse culture. They competed against 300 Super Bowl teams from across the state through a series of multiple choice questions.

Junior Najeb Arifee finds it challenging to prepare for the Super Bowl competitions.

"You gotta study and go to websites and read books because that is where the answers are," Arifee said.

This year's social studies team of Senior Eric Terry, Juniors Zac Swierc and Najeb Arifee placed third at the local competition. Terry, Arifee, Junior Courtney Jones and Junior Sarah Martin also placed third in the Interdisciplinary round.

"I have learned that hard work really pays off, and I learned a lot about the Vikings, too," Arifee said.

# spell bowl.



## Spell Bowl

Sponsor Mrs. Evelyn Steiner

Front row: Mansor Arifee, Mrs. Evelyn Steiner, Alyssa Nymeyer, Courtney L. Jones; Back row: Zachary Swierc, Blair McDaniel, Najeb Arifee

Begin with 14 pages of words to study, everything from "arson" to "zoning," and the more difficult, "eucalyptus" to "sarcophagus." Junior Zachary Swierc has experienced this firsthand.

"You're given a few thousand words, and you have to learn how to spell them. You just have to study it," Swierc said.

Then comes the competition. Ten rounds of nine words each, read by an emcee. Competitors are given 15 seconds to write the word. Although Spell Bowl is a group, the competitions work differently.

"The whole competition is complicated. There is no team to back you. It's an individual effort," Swierc said.

The Senior Spell Bowl Competition took place on October 20. The MHS team scored 53 points, not enough to advance to the state competition.

Although the competitions are challenging, Swierc said he enjoys himself.

"The best part is just learning where your limits are and learning how hard I am capable of working. I enjoy the competition and my team," Swierc said.





After looking over her notes, Senior Hannelore Reynolds writes a news story for the front page of *The Mirror*.

"Newspaper class has been the best class I've taken in high school. I advise students to take this class because it helps

with listening, listening and social skills. I've loved every moment with the staff," Reynolds said.

Focusing on her news story, Junior Patricia Zimmerman writes a story for the news section. "Newspaper rocks! It's my first year, and the staff is really friendly. They always help each other. It's one

of the more fun classes I take, although it is still pretty challenging, but we could always use more reporters and story writers, and I definitely think that anyone who can write well and is dedicated should join," Zimmerman said.



As Senior Jasmine Woods lights a candle during Induction Night for Quill and Scroll, she promises to uphold the ethics of good journalism. "This is my second year in Quill and Scroll. All the kids are really friendly, and I think it's really cool that student journalists get this kind of recognition," Woods said. Woods plans to attend Indiana University to study journalism and pursue a career in journalism.



During the induction ceremony, Senior Morgan Taylor reads aloud the Quill and Scroll pledge. "Quill and Scroll is an honor society for student journalists, and we perform community service projects," Taylor said. Taylor plans to attend Indiana University to study journalism.



## newspaper.



### Newspaper

Adviser Mrs. Teresa Procter

Front row: Morgan Taylor, Brianna Clark, Jessica Aldridge, Jasmine Woods; Second row: Patricia Zimmerman, Hannelore Reynolds, Tylar Davis, Charmise Cole, Julia Dicken; Back row: Jasmine Lopez, Lydia Hawkins, Christopher Crawford, Siaka Cassell.

## quill and scroll.



### Quill and Scroll

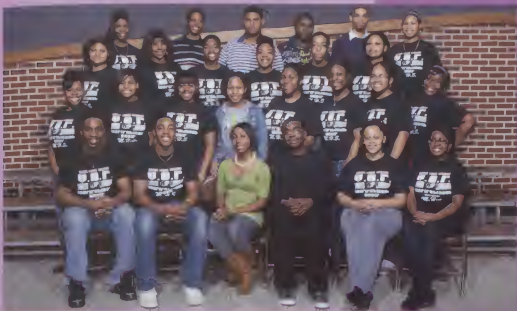
Sponsor Mrs. Teresa Procter

Front row: Morgan Taylor, Alyssa Lynn Richmond, Suzette Siboney Sanchez, Naudia Bradley; Second row: Jasmine Woods, Rhonda McGuire, Catherine Gamino, Rachel Mendez, Lindsay Mendez; Third row: Mallory Lancaster, Emelija Stojova, Michelle Ross, Kelsey Barneck, Julia Dicken; Back Row: Keith Pavlish, Darius Battle, Christopher Crawford, D. Rios; Not pictured: Hannelore Reynolds.





# voices of reason.



## Voices of Reason

Sponsor Mrs. Christine Kibler-Wheeler

Front row: Antonio Ross, Andre Ross, Keshia Mathis, Adrian Weaver, Alyssa Ross, Amelita Shiver, Esmeralda Jones, Keiko Cooley, Inesha Smith, Taylor Carter, Shaunice Holbrook, Tia Rucker, Mary Williams, Zhanna Clark. Third row: Ashrine Hopkins, Lauren Blockwell, Meechell Godfrey, Treasura Sowell, Shene Paul, Back row: Patricia Sellers, Ronald Robinson, Brandon Wright, Alex Wright, Christopher Wilson, Mia Patikas.



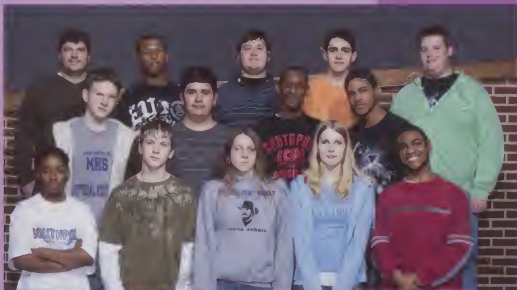
Singing along with the other students, Senior Krisha Mathis sits in the arena practicing for a concert. "Us being Christians, it's hard to maintain the right image us being teens, but Voices of Reason gives us a reminder of our

lifestyle, and it helps us be more like a family rather than individuals," Mathis said.

Playing the keyboard to keep students active, Senior Antonio Ross leads the students of Voices of Reason in song. "It's a challenge leading a group this big. We've had fun this year, and I've had a lot of fun getting to know everyone and being a part of something that has such a huge impact on our school," Ross said. Ross will be graduating this year.



# chess club.



## Chess Club

Sponsor Mr. Sean Meagher

Front row: Adam Bridle, Daniel Policicchio, Amber Scollon, Jamie Roberts, Antoine Gregory, Brandon Jones, Alex Niles. Back row: Mr. Meagher, Christian Woodworth, Niallas Schuffert, Joshua Nevins-Frey, Cody Niles.

Challenging a student to a game of chess, Mr. Sean Meagher heads the chess club and has high hopes for the team. "We have some good players. They're solid, and my goal this year is to bring home a trophy from team state," Mr. Meagher said.



Focusing on his next move, Freshman Kojiro Nangin is challenged by an upperclassman. "I like to play chess; it's very entertaining to me. I like to make up different strategies, and in chess, you use a lot of strategy," Nangin said. Nangin hopes to either place first or second at the state tournament.



# building trades.



## Building Trades A

Teacher Mr. Bob Mackovyak

Front row: Michael Crist, Mr. Bob Mackovyak, Darnius Richmond, Jacob Tokarczyk; Back row: Brian West, Michael Magee, William Bradley, Perry Gordon IV.



## Building Trades B

Teacher Mr. Bob Mackovyak

Front row: Mr. Bob Mackovyak, Devin Schreiber, Nick Furlie, Zach Johnson; Second row: Jeremy Vislosky, Jacob Alvarez, Tevin Pearson; Back row: Andrew Wilson, Ed Packwood.

# dramatic society.



## Dramatic Society

Director Ms. Nikki James

First row: Ms. Nikki James, Taylor Carter, BreAnn Pulphus, Nicole Varela, Marissa Novak, Courtney Bargleidd, Megan Harms; Second row: Kathleen Murphy, Sarah Dora, Brianna Collins, Michelle Ambrose, Shaina Pullum, Mayra Salinas, Madison Coffield; Third row: Cora Boender, Caitlyn Spires, Angelica Spaw, Elizabeth Whelan, Jose Gonzalez, Gregory Phillips, Patricia Millard; Back row: Elliot Foley, Kelsie Boone, Johnathan Wallace, Richard Smith, Kyle Daniels.



## S.O.S.A.

Sponsor Ms. Melissa Volkman

Front row: Megan Harms, Courtney Bargleidd, Jazmin Saez, Heather Mihai; Second row: Cora Boender, Jillian Simmons, Michael Soegler; Back row: Ms. Melissa Volkman, Mark Campbell



Staying in character, Nat (Senior Caitlyn Spires) recites her lines to the audience in the MHS production of "Rabbit Hole." Spires was awarded Best Supporting Actress for her performance at state. The whole experience was, "Surreal, shocking and just really exciting," Spires said.

Biting his lower lip, Jason (Sophomore Kyle Daniels) closes his eyes in contemplation. The "Rabbit Hole" cast traveled to Penn High School for regionals, where Daniels won Best Supporting Actor. "I am usually a happy person, but in order to fit my character to the best of my ability, I listened to sad music and thought of bad moments," Daniels said.



During a scene in "Raisin in the Sun," Howie (Senior Jonathon Wallace) quarrels with his mother (Senior Rebecca Neville) as they discuss money issues. Wallace won a superior award and Best Actor at state. Wallace said he feels that he has grown as an actor. "I did a lot of research on depression and also spent time with Ms. Nikki James and her son to better fit my character," Wallace said.



Victoria DeSoto, Darius White and Nate Edge open gifts they exchanged with each other during the annual holiday party.



At the annual Infusion Dance, Krystal Greene shares a smile with Ashley Reynolds. Greene graduates this year.

## aktion club.



### Aktion Club

Sponsor Mrs. Barb Dlouhy

Front row: Krystal Greene, Derrian Baker, Da'Sheanna Hearst, Anastasia Gutierrez, Kiara Smith, Jonathon Satkowski, Second row: Derek Williams, Victoria DeSoto, Jordan Johnson, Russell Parkhurst, Terrance Johnson; Back row: Mrs. Barb Dlouhy, Darius White, Nathan Barnes, Keatro Adams, Nathaniel Edge.

At the Special Olympics Bowling practice, Nate Edge takes his turn.



The Special Olympics basketball season runs from December through March. The MHS team included Darius White and Derek Williams, who graduates this year.

## special olympics.



### Special Olympics Basketball Team

Coach Mike Knight

Front row: Derek Williams, Derrian Baker, Jonathon Satkowski, Terrance Johnson; Back row: Darius White, Victoria DeSoto, Jordan Johnson, Russell Parkhurst, Nathan Barnes.





# sadd.



## SADD

Sponsor Ms. Kim Suroviak

First row: Danica Carbajal, Daniella Carbajal, Nicole Varela, Nicole Brindley, Sarah Martin, Donisha Webster.  
Second row: Maria Sanchez, Suzette Sanchez, Paula Driotez, Ruby Maldonado, Hadene Haro, Third row: Romeo Harper, Jesus Garcia, Chelsea Oyervides, Ian Fultz, Brandon Taylor, Back row: Juan Hernandez, Brandon Brack, Andrew Goralczyk, Ms. Kim Suroviak.

Giving a speech to the other Merrillville High School students, Senior Danica Carbajal takes part in SADD's Candlelight Walk. This is Carbajal's first year participating in the SADD. She joined with some of her friends from the girls' and boys' soccer teams.



Participants join two candles at SADD's Candlelight Walk. Students walked from the football stadium to the front of the building.

# pnn.



## PNN

Adviser Mr. Mark Ciesielski

Front row: Melissa Kwiatkowski, Dana Arthur, Samantha Serwacki, Kate Tarr, Lonelle Johnson, Second row: Aiyssa Brindley, Madison Coffield, Jessica Petalas, Korey Loudermilk, Katherine Sadural; Back row: Peter Paskash, Tyler Roark, Johnathan Wallace, Zachary Sowinski, Matthew McLindon.

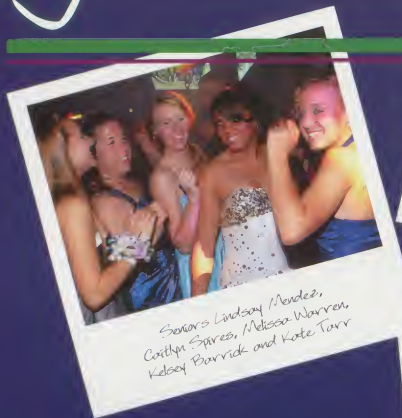
With a deadline looming, Senior adviser Zachary Sowinski edits a segment for the Friday Show. Sowinski works with Seniors Samantha Serwacki and Tyler Roark as advisers for the weekly show.



While filming her segment for the Morning Show, Junior Pauline Laorden takes a break. "The class has helped me develop my reporting and writing skills and also helped working with cameras," Laorden said.



# just dance.



*Seniors Lindsay Mendez, Caitlyn Spares, Melissa Warren, Kelsey Parrick and Kate Torr*



*Seniors Domingue Holliday and Cassie Travis*



*Senior Ashley Cherry and Senior Kalvin Ford of West Side High School*



*Dancing with Senior Josh Pecenia, Senior Danice Carbajal smiles for the camera. "Hanging with friends is what I enjoyed most about Homecoming overall," Carbajal said.*



*Enjoying the atmosphere of Homecoming, Junior Peter Paskash dances with Senior Lindsay Mendez. "My favorite song played at Homecoming was 'Lollipop' by Lil Wayne," Paskash said.*



*Wearing masks, Seniors Ciera Doss and Giovanni Jenkins dance. "The music and atmosphere are what I enjoyed most about the Homecoming Dance," Doss said.*

## moonlit masquerade.

Sparkles, masks and dancing. Homecoming 2008 was a night filled to the brim with all of them. While many attended, most arrived fashionably late. People chose to attend the Homecoming dance this year for an array of different reasons.

"The reason I went to Homecoming was to dress up and have fun with friends. I want to go to everything during my high school years," Junior Diva Lowe said.

Those students who attended Homecoming as their first high school dance seemed to have positive comments about the dance.

"I came to see the difference between Pierce and MHS dances. MHS has way more freedom," Freshmen Amanda Banashak said.

"I thought it was good. I've never been to a school dance before. I was a little nervous, but once I saw everybody dancing, I joined in. It turned out to be a fun night," Senior Melissa Warren said.

This year the theme was Moonlit Masquerade. The halls were ornamented with candelabras and decorated in purple, gold and green. The dance left a different impression on all who attended.

"I thought the dance was kind of lame because no one wore a mask. No one participated in the masquerade stuff," Junior Peter Paskash said.

"The dance this year was a lot better than when I first attended my freshman year because this year there was a lot more food and the DJ was way better," Senior Lindsay Mendez said.

As always, the dance was held in the Hall of Flags.

"A lot more people came out and seemed to care this year," Senior James Manis said.



# homecoming queen nominees

Senior Lindsay Mendez



Senior Danice Carbojal



Senior Danielle Wagner



Senior Ashley Woods



Senior Ashley Hite



## and the crown goes to...

It's half time and students are anxious to discover who will be crowned Homecoming Queen and named Mr. Football.

After waiting, Seniors Ashley Woods and Keith Dockery take center stage.

"All the girls were beautiful. I thought they all should be able to take a piece of the crown," Woods said.

The announcement and crowning of the winner is an exciting moment for any girl.

"I was in shock. I thought they must have had the wrong person. I just wasn't expecting it to be me," Woods said.

Woods wasn't the only one who was in shock.

"I was really surprised. I didn't think I knew that many people. It's an honor because it shows you know a lot of people and you're friends with them," Senior Nominee Lindsay Mendez said.

"Ashley is so pretty. She deserved to win, but honestly every one of the girls deserved to win. They all were so pretty and so out-going," Senior Nominee Danielle Wagner said.

Mr. Football is another award bestowed on Homecoming night, honoring the most valuable senior starter on the team.

"It feels good to be named with the honor of Mr. Football because it shows that you're not only a leader on and off the field, but you also have the respect and admiration of your fellow teammates and coaches," Senior Keith Dockery said.

"I voted for Keith because he deserved it. He's a hard worker and really dedicated to the team," Senior Keith Thomas said.

"His personal record is what sets him apart from the rest of the team. His dedication and devotion to his coaches, teammates and the plays was the essential part that pushed people to vote for him," Senior quarterback Dolapo Macarthy said.



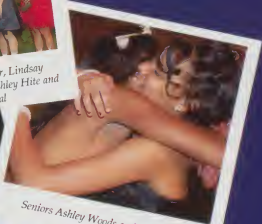
Homecoming Queen  
Senior Ashley Woods



Seniors Danielle Wagner, Lindsay Mendez, Ashley Woods, Ashley Hite and Danice Carbojal



Mr. Football  
Senior Keith Dockery



Seniors Ashley Woods and Ashley Hite



# Homecoming week.

Standing on the junior float, Junior Amber Medwetz throws candy.

"The parade was my favorite part of Homecoming Week. We put a lot of work into the float and it was nice to see it all pay off," Medwetz said. Medwetz has participated in Homecoming Week since her freshman year. "The Goofy Games was my least favorite part of Homecoming because I couldn't go," Medwetz said.



With her shades on, Senior Jasmine Woods joins Seniors Jacque'se Waters, Jasmine Jones and Markella Papanthlakis.

"The dance was the best because it was fun and all my friends were there and I like dressing up," Woods said. "I was excited and sad for Homecoming Week. I knew it was going to be my last."



From Madden Monday to the masquerade dance, Homecoming Week was filled with excitement and preparation.

For his first year, Freshman Rudy Sanchez wanted to show his Pirate pride.

"I heard from some people that if you helped with Homecoming you could get into the dance for free, but I really wasn't in for a free ride. I came out because I wanted to show my spirit and do something for the school," Sanchez said.

Many students came out to help and support the school to make Homecoming Week successful, while others supported the school by showing their Pirate pride.

Students participated by dressing for Madden Madness Monday, Twin Day Tuesday, Wacky Tacky Wednesday, Totally Far Out Thursday and Pirate Pride Friday.

In all, Homecoming Week was made possible by the student body and their dedication to organizing a fun week.

Students participated in the Homecoming Parade and Goofy Games Thursday after school.

Senior Hannelore Reynolds was excited for Homecoming Week.

"All together, the actual Goofy Games and parade were great. The seniors came together and beasted in the Goofy Games and made the float amazing. I was happy to know that the seniors won both of these, but I was really upset to know that the juniors were really close to beating us," Reynolds said.

To Reynolds, the disappointment came Friday night when Valparaiso won the game.

"The game was exciting, the crowd was ecstatic and everyone got hyped over the game. But it was very disappointing to lose to Valparaiso. They were a good team, but we were just having an off night," Reynolds said.

As game night got closer, many discovered that the student body would have the opportunity to participate in a white out. But this attempt failed to provoke student involvement.

"The white out wasn't a big success, but that was okay. A lot of people came out to support the team anyway. Although it was upsetting that we lost, it was a game we should have won," Sanchez said.

As Homecoming Week came to an end, many were upset that this was their final year, but others were looking forward to next year.

## Spirit Week

"I was happy and sad when I was getting ready for Homecoming Week. I'm a senior and I knew that it was going to be my last time to do it," Senior Morgan Taylor said. Taylor and Senior Hannelore Reynolds wore Bears and Colts jerseys.

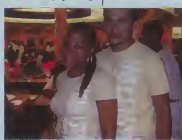
10-11-08

## Madden Madness



10-12-08

## Twin Day



Sporting Hollister shirts are Senior Jessica Aldridge and her boyfriend, Sophomore Daren Cornick. "I was just hoping that I would be the only one to dress up and end up looking stupid," Aldridge said.



"Madden Monday was my favorite day of Homecoming Week. I got to wear my bright orange hoodie with that bright orange 'C' on it that everyone hates because it's so bright," Junior Efrain Diaz said. Diaz was more focused on the Homecoming football game than the spirit of Homecoming Week.



Wearing tie-dyed shirts are Seniors Eli Vazquez and Anthony Corrales. On the day of the parade, Vazquez said, "I got to rock my fro."







Senior Dwayne City



Freshman Rudolph Smith



Senior Jonathan Wallace



With purple and white paint on her face, Sophomore Shaina Pullum poses with one arm flexed and one arm on her hip for Pirate Pride Day. "I love having school spirit. I like doing things that are not the ordinary," Pullum said.

Dressed in togas, Seniors Mike Sandridge, Hannitore Reynolds, Caitlyn Spires and Jessica Hernandez ride the senior float in the Homecoming Parade. "I really enjoyed being apart of the float. It was something that everyone put their time and effort into," Spires said. Spires had been looking forward to Homecoming since the beginning of the year. "Homecoming week was so good. Everything seemed to go good," Spires said. During Homecoming Week Spires was determined to beat Junior Mohammad Najeb Arjee at everything.

10-13-08

### Wacky Tacky Day



"I was sad while I was getting ready for Homecoming Week. It's my last year and the last time that I'll be a part of it," Senior Jacques Waters said. Waters puts up the piece sign and smiles along with Sophomores Tyrone Brown and Marissa Stewart.



"I was anxious and excited for Homecoming Week," Senior Ava Meux said. Meux acts wacky with fellow Seniors Kandace Greene and Rebecca Neville. "I participated in Homecoming Week because it is always nice to show some spirit," Meux said.

10-14-08

### Totally for art class



Because he admires Jimi Hendrix, Junior Ronald McMillian dresses like the '60s rock star and carries a guitar. "'60s and '70s day was my favorite. This was an opportunity for me to dress like him," he said. McMillian said he was afraid that he would be the only one to go all out on '60s and '70s day. He wasn't.



"'60s and '70s day had to be my favorite part of Homecoming Week. I got to go through my parents' closets and pull things out and put them together," Junior Rah-Kimm Cherry said. Senior Mike Sandridge, Alysia Burns, Vince Marquez, Jessica Aldridge and Cherry wore colorful '60s attire.

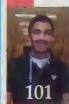
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### Purple and White Day

Dressing in purple and white, Junior Amber Scollon and Seniors Kreshanna Major,



Mia Muhammad, Brenda Roy and Mike Sandridge show school spirit. "I participated in Homecoming Week because I have a lot of school spirit. I really do love my school," Muhammad said.



# dancing the freshman and sophomore winter formal.

Freshman Peter Berlanga and Destiny Piusinder, Pinaline High School



Juniors Clu'ya Eddie and Xechill Logan



Freshmen Cortez Sims and Lekela Patterson



Freshmen Dylan Crane, Kenneth Walsh and Brandon Culver



Freshmen Joseph Lee and Aisha Brown



Freshman Tachina Smith and Cedric Smith, Canal High School



With senior events creating excitement throughout the year, underclassmen are often overlooked. The Freshman/Sophomore Winter Formal is one night when it's all about them.

Members of the Family Career and Consumer Learners of American hosted the eighth annual Freshman/Sophomore Winter Formal this year.

"I went to the dance this year with my girlfriend. I enjoyed spending time with her and having her meet all my friends and classmates," Freshman Peter Berlanga said.

Dorian Pickett was crowned freshman princess. This year's sophomore princess was Stephanie Lobody.

"The best part of the night was sitting on the chair and being in the spotlight. It was my first high school dance, and I honestly wouldn't go to every dance from here on out," Lobody said.

Many underclassmen go to the Winter Formal to see the difference between Pierce Middle School dances and high school dances.

"The dances at the high school are so much better than at Pierce. They are after school, and more people come. I really enjoy just being around my friends and listening to music," Freshman Lisette Caberea said.

"I liked the Winter Formal a lot more than Homecoming," Caberea said, "because there were less kids and more kids my age."



Senior Katrina Underhill and Sophomore Michael Ambrose



Freshman Dorian Pickett and Sophomore Stephanie Lobody



Freshman Dennis Scott



Freshmen Kayla Lee and Jasmine Washington



Freshmen Jacob Gibson and Libby McHugh, Crown Point High School



Freshman Kiarra Johnson and Junior Dewayne Ware



Juniors Aubrey Couser, Paige Wilson, Sarah Martin, Amber Medawetz and Senior Kirsten Koharchik



# night away.



As an MHS graduate, Amanda Rysiewicz is invited to come to the Inclusion Dance every year. "Often they will call and say, 'When's the dance?'" Mrs. Barb Dlouhy said. Attendance has increased to 70 people, including current students, alumni and students from other schools.

## inclusion dance.

The Inclusion Dance comes around once a year, but the special education students spend months anticipating its arrival.

Not only do the Merrillville students attend this dance, but the faculty also invites students from Crown Point, Calumet, Hobart and River Forest High schools.

The dance has no theme, and precedes the Winter Formal for freshmen and sophomores.

Between 60 and 70 students from the different schools, including MHS alumni, attended the dance this year.

"The best part of the dance is the excitement and anticipation

from the kids," Mrs. Barb Dlouhy said.

"Months before the dance the excitement starts. They're wondering what they are going to wear and who they are going to dance with. Ms. VonBehren always does such an amazing job," Mrs. Dlouhy said.

"The dance was a lot better this year. I danced a lot, but enjoyed everything. I couldn't pick one part as the best. It was all good," Derek Williams said.

Members of Family, Career and Consumer Leaders of America have hosted the Inclusion Dance for the past 15 years.

Dana Keresy



Desayne Tucker and Miranda Neuman



Timothy Tsuk



Amanda Jaskyn and Tenita Jamison



Raymond Friley



Amber Garcia, Britling Bailey and Derrien Bader



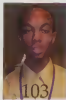
Natalie Lesko



Benjamin Banks



Clapping his hands, Senior Jonathan Satkoski dances to the music at the Inclusion Dance. Satkoski is a member of the Special Olympics basketball and football team who attends the dance every year. He said the best part for him is seeing his friends, both dancing, makes it a great night. "I'm good at it," Satkoski said.







### ROTC Senior Staff

Instructors Maj. Guy Ramey and SMSgt. Dan Wrasman

Front row: Lindsey Tobin, Latifa Robinson, Brittanie Thomas; Back row: Thomas Dalton, Zachary Edwards.



### Drill Team

Instructors Maj. Guy Ramey and SMSgt. Dan Wrasman

Front row: Ameshia Smith, Lakiya Chambers, India Taylor, Jasmin Porter; Second row: Lindsey Tobin, Ebonee Pulliam, Brittanie Thomas, Donisha Webster, Talia Constant; Back row: Jordan Thomas, Thomas Dalton, Zachary Edwards, Brandon Vlasic, Christopher Turner, Joshua Blink.



### Color Guard

Instructors Maj. Guy Ramey and SMSgt. Dan Wrasman

Front row: Brandon Vlasic, Zachary Edwards, Victor Arellano, Joshua Blink; Second row: Richard Cast, Joel Fleis; Back row: Talia Constant, Christopher Turner.



Sophomore Victoria Verdugo, Freshman Rico Ayala and his girlfriend, look forward to their plans from Senn High School, look forward to after the dance. "It was a great time and after the ball, my girlfriend and I went to eat at Chili's," Ayala said.



"I was so glad I went to the ball. It was the best. I've gone since I was a sophomore," Senior Ameshia Smith said. Being best friends, Senior Antonio Ross accompanied Smith to the ball. "I didn't expect it to be such a great time. It's like Prom, and the food was great," Ross said.



Graduate Luv-Joy Spencer, Senior Jonathon Cowley and Junior Lindsey Mitchell were catching up on old times. Having planned the ball, Cowley and Mitchell were happy with the turnout. "I didn't dance at all, but I helped plan the ball, and in my eyes, it was perfect," Mitchell said.



Having spent almost three hours getting ready, Senior Felicia Dudley was satisfied with her appearance. "From all the years I have come to the ball, this year was the best. It's going to be hard for anyone to top this one," Dudley said.



# military ball.

The Military Ball gives Air Force Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps students a chance to let go and have some fun, while maintaining proper etiquette and decorum.

The evening at the Croation Center in early March began as the students entered the hall in a receiving line to greet their hosts. A formal dinner followed. A brief intermission allowed attendees to socialize with students at other tables and take a restroom break.

"We do not go to the bathroom during dinner because it is considered rude," Junior Cadet Lieutenant Colonel Zachary Edwards said. Edwards plans on having a career in the military.

After the intermission, the dance portion of the evening began.

"It's really fun," Senior Core Commander Colonel Thomas Dalton said. Dalton has participated in ROTC for three years.

While most aspects of the ball remained the same from previous years, a new event was added — senior recognition.

"They named [the seniors'] positions and the activities they had participated in throughout the course. It was the first

year they've done that," Junior Lieutenant Colonel Crystal Valant said. Valant, like Edwards, plans on being in the military after graduating.

Unlike other dances held during the year, attendance is mandatory for all ROTC students and it is a heavily weighted portion of their grade. Students are graded on their behavior and etiquette and the behavior and etiquette of their guests, as well as their attire.

Having only two people on the planning committee, some people might have given up. But Senior Jonathan Cowley and Junior Lindsey Mitchell said they put together a successful event.

"This year's was the best. It was more put together," Valant said.

ROTC takes learning beyond the classroom by having students volunteer around school and the community.

"It's all volunteer work on projects like adopt a highway and meals on wheels. We are guides at parent teacher conferences," Valant said.

"We help out with pretty much anything the school asks us too. It's a home away from home," Dalton added.



Dancing to the music. Seniors Antonio Ross and Latifa Robinson both agreed that the music choices were great.



"It took me a really long time getting ready, but it was all worth it," Junior Brittanie Thomas said.



Enjoying their time together, Senior Tramel Davis and Junior Aariana Moore dance the night away. "Making memories is what it's all about," Davis said.



Seniors Latifa Robinson & Cassidy Bousley



Senior Joel Fife



Freshmen I Shavetta Taylor & Jonathan Cowley



Senior Mariah Schmidt



Freshmen Fabiana Collins & Alyssa Shirk



Junior Aariana Moore

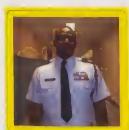


Freshman Kendra Washington



Graduate Nickolas Trapp & Senior Lindsey Tobin

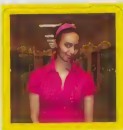
from a students perspective.  
advice for underclassmen



Senior Thomas Dalton  
"ROTC is more than just a class. We're a family."



Senior Domonique Love  
"Don't make split second decisions that have long lasting effects."



Senior Mariah Schmidt  
"Wear confidence. It always matches your outfit."



Senior Robert McKee  
"It's not all just fun and games, so if you're not serious, don't join."



Seniors

# grand march.

Finding the perfect dress or tux months in advance, spending hours in the hair salon, getting dressed and arriving in an outrageous limousine all go into the preparation for the Grand March.

The Grand March is a free-of-charge pre-Prom event that welcomes people all over town to see Prom attire and who will win the titles of Prom King and Queen.

Many students started preparing for this event early, while others decided to wait approximately two weeks before to make Prom a memorable night.

"I started preparing in March up until the day before, but all the hard work paid off," Junior Blair

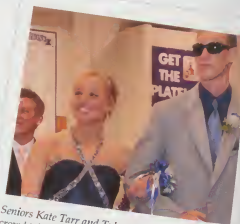
McDaniel said.

Students voted during the week prior to Prom to choose from four male and four female nominees for Prom King and Queen.

The results were in as the Prom Court nominees gathered on the stage and Seniors Romeo Harper and Samantha Serwacki passed the crowns to Juniors Najeb Arifee and Blair McDaniel.

"It felt good to win. I was very surprised," Arifee said.

Words of wisdom from McDaniel to next year's Junior Prom nominee candidates: "Be positive and have a good image in the school."



Seniors Kate Tarr and Tyler Roark give smiles to the crowd taking pictures at the Grand March. "It was great spending one of the most memorable nights of high school with such a good friend. I had the most fun I've had in while, and I couldn't have asked for a better date," Roark said.



Seniors Kendall Bonick & Ryan Smith



Seniors Jessica Britton & Brian Connor



Seniors Jasmine Woods & Brandon Terrell Taylor



Junior Emily Kurczynski & Senior Alyssa Brindley



Juniors Koryc Loudermilk & Francis Montisovok



Seniors Charmise Cole & Jonathan Nason



"It was great having a beautiful date, especially since she let me dance with other girls," Senior Mike Sandridge said. Sandridge escorted Senior Kaitlin Fleming.



Senior Monique Cager, escorted by Robert Dyson, poses outside the Grand March to be escorted to Avalon Manor. "Prom was so much fun. It was really memorable, and I'm really happy that I went," Cager said.

# Crowning.



"I was surprised that I was nominated, but when I won, I couldn't believe it," Junior Najeb Arjee said. The other Prom King nominees congratulate Arjee after he receives the crown from former Prom King Senior Romeo Harper.



As Principal Michael Krutz announces the new Prom Queen, the nominees, Juniors Daria Arthur, Blair McDaniel, Gabrielle Roberts and Kayla Williams, wait anxiously. "I was so nervous. I felt like my heart was going to pound out of my chest," Roberts said.



After crowning Junior Blair McDaniel, Senior Samantha Serwacki gives the newly-announced Prom Queen a hug. "I was really surprised," McDaniel said. "It was really tough. Any of the girls could've won."

Prom King and Queen.



Prom King and Queen, Juniors Najeb Arjee and Blair McDaniel, are escorted by their dates, Senior Kenny Albee (left) and Junior Jessica Brooks (right), as they are introduced at Avalon Manor.

## nominees.



Junior Blair McDaniel



Junior Kayla Williams



Junior Gabrielle Roberts



Junior Daria Arthur



Junior Najeb Arjee



Junior Anthony Napules



Junior Juan Rivera



Junior Matthew McLendon



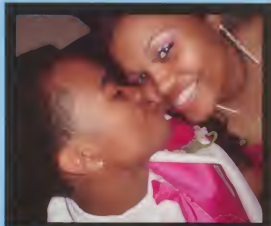
# after-prom.



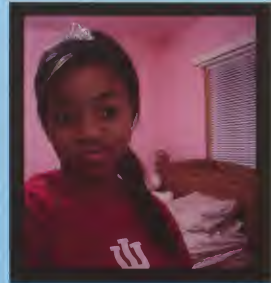
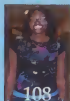
Climbing the rocks at Fence Park in Logansport, Indiana, Seniors Anthony Lucas, Alyssa Lynn Richmond, Senanatha Szwedki, Kelly Torr and graduate Trevor Bianchi enjoy a weekend of camping. "We decided to go camping because we never went camping before, and I thought it would be fun to go with all my friends," Lucas said. During their stay, the group went hiking, cranefishing and they had cookouts.

## after-prom activities.

Like many other students, Sophomore Jory Cunningham and Junior Naudia Bradley went to The Cheesecake Factory in Chicago after a night full of dancing at Prom. "It was really nice. The food was good, especially the cheesecake," Cunningham said. The Cheesecake Factory was not their original plan, but it still was a nice evening for Cunningham. "I was happy we decided to go to The Cheesecake Factory instead of The Moggianos because I was not feeling Italian food. The night was just perfect, wouldn't change one thing about it," Cunningham said.



"I did absolutely nothing the day after Prom because my date got really sick," Senior Jasmine Woods said. While other students piled into cars for a day filled with laughter and memories, Woods was left all alone at home. "I regret it because all my friends came home talking about how much fun they had while I was stuck in the house," Woods said. Since Woods did not get to go out with everyone else, her day consisted of sleep, reading books and taking pictures of herself on her camera.



Compared to other students who only drove two hours for their day-after festivities, Senior Aaron Kaczmarek and his friends drove to Wisconsin. "We wanted to go all out for our senior year to make it special," Kaczmarek said. While in Wisconsin, the group stayed at the Kalahari Resort. "It was really nice. They had an indoor water park and theme park," Kaczmarek said.



Just like many other Prom attendees, Senior James Pierre Allen III and friends decided to go to Six Flags Great Escape in Gurnee, Illinois. "We had a lot of fun. We tried to get on as many rides as possible," Allen said. "At first I was a little nervous because the ride (The Giant Drop) makes your stomach drop just, but it was a lot of fun," Allen said.



Instead of going to an amusement park after Prom, Seniors Aaron Curtis and Nicole Price and Juniors Priscilla Stewart and Rah-Kimm Cherry decided to visit downtown Chicago. "The big city is a fun place to hang out and look at the nice scenery," Curtis said. Not only did they drive around looking at the scenery, but they also went shopping and out to eat. "The most memorable part of the day was watching the mechanical elevator and seeing how it works," Curtis said.



# prom.

With so many last-minute appointments and preparations, Prom can go from the most stressful beginning to the most memorable night. Junior Kayla Williams and Senior Ryan Roddy share their stories.

"I decided on changing my dress at the last minute, and with alterations, new shoes and jewelry, it came to about \$600. I also ended up waiting for a fitting room for three hours. My date ended up doing everything the day of Prom, from getting his tux to getting his hair done. We ended up having limo problems; we went through three different limo companies until we found the right one," Williams said.

"Even though I was looking forward to winning Prom Queen, my date and I ended up having a blast at Prom and in Chicago," Williams added.

"As soon as I got out of school

the day of Prom, I had to pick up my watch, rings, tux, bonnier and corsage. I also had to try on my tuxedo and make sure everything fit. I called everyone on our list for the limo to remind everyone about the time. In the process of all this, I ended up losing my watch and rings. After an hour of looking everywhere for them, I realized I had left them in the car. When I finally was able to get ready, I put my tux on and forgot where I put my cuff links on top of everything else," Roddy said.

"Four hours later, I was finally ready. My group and I met up for the limo, took pictures and headed to the Grand March and the Avalon. After Prom, we went to Chicago for dinner, and the day after, a bunch of us went to Six Flags," Roddy said.

"I would have to say the most memorable time at Prom was seeing two people wearing the same exact dress. It was definitely funny,"

Juniors Marcus Howard & Daria Arthur



Junior Natalie Vartanoff & Senior Stephen Carriello



Seniors Katherine Sadaird & Robbie Jordan



Senior Antonio C. Ross & Junior Kourtney Greens



Senior Anthony C. Ross & Junior Kourtney Greens



Jade McDonald (Minister) & Senior Aaron Ellis



Senior Tiffany Leach & Junior Corey Loudmille



Seniors Zachary Scamiski & Aaron Kaczmarek



"Prom was great. I really had fun dancing with all my friends all night long," Senior Roy Walker said. Walker went to Prom with Senior Ashley Hite, his girlfriend.



With friends by his side, Senior Johnathan Wallace shows off his moves. "Prom was so fun this year. I truly wish the night didn't have to end," Wallace said. Wallace said Prom 2009 was everything he hoped and wished for.



Dancing with Senior Kaitlin Fleming, Junior Dina Lowe breaks in the dance floor with her friends. "My friends and I were so sad when Prom was over," Lowe said. After attending Prom, Lowe went out to eat at The Cheesecake Factory. "The food was so delicious," Lowe said.







## get revue.

Students use music, dance and acting as a means of human expression. Performing arts require a certain amount of practice and perception. Using their experiences and emotions as inspiration, students compose or play musical pieces, choreograph dances and stage theatrical productions. For some, this becomes not just an art or academic requirement, but a way of life. "The object of art is to give life a shape."  
— William Shakespeare



on that note.

Aside from preparing for competition sponsored by the Indiana State School Music Association, the orchestra also prepared for a series of concerts.

"It was long, but overall it was a very nice concert," Junior Brittini Jackson said about the Holiday concert. Jackson has been in the orchestra for four years and plays the violin.

High school students were on their best behavior as they were acting as role models for the middle school students, who also played at the concert.

"Whether you like it or not, people follow you and look up to you," Jackson added.

The orchestra also traveled to Indianapolis in February to compete in the ISSMA competition. During ISSMA competitions, schools compete to earn gold, silver or bronze ratings based on their performance.

Junior Page Wilson prepared for the competition through many rehearsals to reach her goal of earning a gold medal.

"I was very nervous. I drink a lot of water and try not to freak out," Wilson said. She believes that, overall, the orchestra did very well.



#### Advanced Orchestra

Directors Mr. John Bradford and Mrs. Diane Kowalski

Front row: Corina Vasquez, Megan Harris, Tanya Riveron, Khari Coker, Cynthia Garcia, Alyssa Nymeyer, Nicole Tanulis; Second row: Patricia Miller, Nikko Sadural, Aubrey Cowser, Caitlyn Spires, Michelle Ross, Morgan Lamb, Evelyn Irak, Paige Wilson, Lauren Kiser, Sarah Martin; Third row: Mr. John Bradford, Sabrina Smith-Griggs, Rachel Drapeau, Chantal DeJesus, Heather Kiel, Jericca Jasso, Pauline Panayi; Fourth row: Britt Jackson, Alexander Perez, Cody Niles, Angela Reynolds, Claudia Ponce, Cora Boender, Cameron Grundy, Scott Gedda, Nichole McFarland; Back row: Jonathon Curry. Not pictured: David Ortiz, Elliot Parker, Kaitlyn Sweeney.



#### Intermediate Orchestra

Directors Mr. John Bradford and Mrs. Diane Kowalski

Front row: Natalie Mathews, Stephanie Husak, Kourtney Woods, Kallioji Haramantas, Rebekah Kimani, Alisha Brown, Inesha Smith; Second row: Katherine Robert, Dylan Crane, Briana Walker, Mya Mayfield, Lauren Camiello, Briana Higerada, Loreal Hill, Luis Gutierrez, Brittney Bass; Third row: Carley Laughhead, Matthew Harris, Brianna DeCausemaker, Myelsha Harris, Mia Pettkas, Amanda Banashak, Aurielle Powell, Jeannette Cardenas, Monika Knight; Fourth row: Caleb Sanchez, Daniel Tanulis, Courtney Jones, Jasmine Washington, David Jordan, Michael Rhoades; Back row: Erin Wells, Jose Rodriguez, Mr. John Bradford, Kalle Domikalis. Not pictured: Tyler Scott, Lauren Blackwell, Paul Crowley, Luis Lagunas.







While looking at his music sheet, Junior Johnathan Curry plays the bass. "The best part about being in orchestra is just playing and learning new music," Curry said. Curry didn't join orchestra by choice. "My mom made me join orchestra," Curry said. He has been a part of orchestra for seven years and plans to play in college. "Yes, I'm going to do it in college. I love playing my instrument," Curry said. Curry finds orchestra to be difficult sometimes. "The worst part about being in orchestra is playing the same song over and over again if someone can't get it," Curry said.



As part of the strings section, Senior Cody Niles plays the viola. Niles' favorite song to perform is "Barber of Seville." "The best part of being in orchestra is just being able to hang out with friends," Niles said. Niles joined orchestra because he wanted to be different. "Everyone was joining band, so I wanted to be different and joined orchestra," Niles said. Niles has been in orchestra for seven years and plans to continue to do it throughout his college years with hopes that he will receive a scholarship for it.



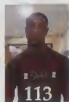
During the Holiday concert in Reinhart Auditorium, Senior Alexander Perez plays the cello. "I joined orchestra because I had to choose between that or band and I chose orchestra," Perez said. Perez finds the playing test to be the worst part of orchestra. Perez has been in orchestra for seven years but doesn't plan to continue with it in college. "I just don't see it in my future," Perez said.



With his baton in the air, Orchestra Director Mr. John Bradford directs the orchestra students. One of many of Bradford's students, Senior Chantal Dejesus plays the violin. "The best part of being in orchestra is just being able to learn new things and play with your friends as well," Dejesus said. "I wanted to join orchestra because it was something new and I learned to enjoy it as the years passed," Dejesus added.



With her instrument in her hands, Junior Patricia Millard plays the cello for the Holiday concert in the Reinhart auditorium. "The best part about being in orchestra is playing music with people that you've known for about five or six years. We all get emotional and into the songs," Millard said. Millard's favorite songs to perform are "Pirates of the Caribbean" and "Fields of Gold." Millard has been in orchestra for six years and plans to be a part of it in college.





# Follow the beat.

The size of the JHS Band has noticeably increased from last year's 60 members to this year's 80 members.

All performing bands have gone through music theory this year.

Director Mr. Mark Danielson said he feels that the greatest changes this year have been the more challenging music and the students' increased dedication.

"My favorite part about band is all the different places we get to go and all the different shows we play," Senior Edwin Smith said.

At the South Suburban College Jazz Fest, the jazz band earned an outstanding performance plaque after participating. Edwin Smith, Charne Knight, Aaron Garner, Josh Shockey and Terrence Yon each earned Outstanding Soloist Awards.

Later at the Indiana State School Music Association contest at LaPorte High School, the band earned a gold medal.

Three concert band members participated in a contest.

In February, Meredith Dobbs, Ashley Jamerson, Tim Terry and Malcolm Graham won gold medals at the ISSMA State Solo and Ensemble Contest at North Warren High School in Indianapolis. Tim Hayes came home with a silver.

"They have just been sweet. Mr. Danielson said.

He said that since all the bands have performed well, he hopes to take the band next year to perform in the Chicago Thanksgiving Day Parade and win gold at district.

This year Mr. Danielson worked closely with Mr. Kenny Cofer, band director at Merrillville Intermediate School, and Mr. Lou Carney, band director at Ellettsville Pierce Middle School.

Overall the main goal for next year is "to just continue this excellence that the students have already shown," Mr. Danielson said.

At halftime, Senior Heather Kiel joins band and the rest of the colorguard members on the football field to perform. Although Kiel was unhappy with their performances this year, she said that "we got better towards the end. It was fun."



## Jazz Band

Director Mr. Mark Danielson

Front row: Cymburiteash Hayes, Taylor Carter, Gloria Graham, Sarah Dora, Charne Knight, Katrina Underhill, Ashley Albhorn; Second row: Mr. Mark Danielson, Matthew Nathan, Kathleen Murphy, Jasmine Ervin, Joshua Stacker, Aaron Garner-Poston, Daniella Douglas, Mark Campbell; Third row: Christopher Taylor, Edwin Smith, Ryan Roddy, Freedom Johnson, Joseph Drapeau, Zachary Swierc, Malcolm Graham, Meredith Dobbs; Back row: Rashid Dika, Taylor Worrell, Terrence Yon, Rachel Drapeau, Ashley Jamerson, Kalle Domikalis.



## Beginning Band

Director Mr. Mark Danielson

Front row: Cymburiteash Hayes, Taylor Carter, Charesa Baker, Domynek Johnson; Second row: Mr. Mark Danielson, Stephanie Lobody, Ashley Albhorn, Alyssa Roes, Andrea Reed; Third row: Joshua Riley, Freedom Johnson, Joseph Drapeau, Joseph Patton, Jasmine Ervin, Kathleen Murphy, Brandon Harris; Fourth row: Logan Hubbard, Gabrielle Bell, Myeasha Brown, Tremell Morgan, Adrian Weaver, Corey Weatherspoon, Le Zairrick Bates; Back row: Daniel Lipp, Devion Williams, Tyler Shockey, Taylor Worrell, Avery Sims, John Mosley.





Playing on the sidelines, Senior Tavon Cunningham strikes the cymbals with his mallets. He has been in band for six years. Cunningham said that he joined band because "I wanted to expand my knowledge. It's helped me to get more experienced."



To prepare for the annual Band Holiday Concert, Junior Cha'ya Eddie says that she played in class and made sure that she understood her music. Eddie has been in band for six years and said that she plans to continue playing because "it's part of my routine. I love to do it."



For the past four years, Sophomore Gloria Graham has been involved with band. Graham said that her favorite part about band is "all the friends. You build a family." This year, Graham attended the Indiana State School Music Association with her trio and they earned a bronze rating.



Marching across the field, Senior Ryan Roddy plays his trumpet at a football game during halftime. "Running around on the football field," Roddy said, is his favorite band memory from this year.

With his french horn in hand at the 2008 Band Holiday Concert, Junior Zachary Suierc concentrates on his music. In order to prepare for the concert, Suierc had rehearsal every class. "Exploring different types of music," Suierc said, is his favorite part about band. This year he also attended the Indiana State School Music Association and received a silver rating on his solo.



### Intermediate Band

Director Mr. Mark Danielson

Front row: Eric Black, Michelle Ambrose, Malcolm Hindmon, Charizma Jackson, Kelli Chavez, Daniella Douglas, Jacob Caddick, Michael Brown; Second row: Christopher Taylor, Jordann Matthys, Kevin Caruana, Karla Solis, Kaitlyn Phillips, Kyle Schroeder, Marley Whittaker; Third row: Mr. Mark Danielson, Joshua Smithers, Aubrey Phillips, Mayra Salinas, Vince Marquez, Edwin Smith



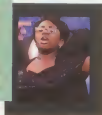
### Advanced Band

Director Mr. Mark Danielson

Front row: Gloria Graham, Sarah Dora, Samantha Bailey, Amber Medwetz, Julie Hays; Second row: Mr. Mark Danielson, Cha'ya Edlin, Chame Knight, Christine Peden, Niesha Thomas, Jasmine Woods; Third row: Dylan Tonneff, Armando Miller, Lance Robinson, Joshua Stacker, Dwayne Wright; Fourth row: Meredith Dobs, Charles Mihail, Ronald McMillan, Robert Balash, Zachary Suierc, Ryan Roddy, Parry Papamihalakis; Back row: Tavon Cunningham, Lacie Denwood, Phillip Mayweathers, Ashley Jamerson, Matthew Nathan, Malcolm Graham, Vince Marquez, Juan Rivera.







Guided by three years of choir experience, Junior Angelica Dix performs at the Holiday Choir Concert. "I have a passion for singing. I sang around the house to get ready for our concert," Dix said. Dix participated in the ISSMA competition, earning a gold rating in the district competition and then advancing to the state competition, where she earned another gold rating.



With the Varsity Choir, Sophomore Sarah Dora performs at the holiday concert. Dora's choir class was not present for the entire concert, but did perform several numbers. For the finale of the concert, each choir class came together to perform the final song.

"I sang in choir at my church when I was younger, but I wanted to try something new," Senior Kandace Greene said. Greene and Junior Alyssa Shirk sing in the advanced choirs.



After years of private lessons, Junior Kourtney Givens performs the "Christmas Melody." "I love being in choir. You learn to become a well-rounded singer," Givens said. Givens had a solo in the song "Joyful, Joyful." She also went to Indiana State School Music Association competition.

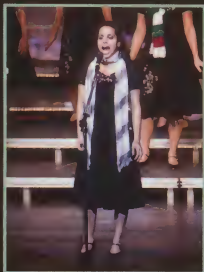


As a participant in choir since the eighth grade, Senior Kelly Tarr performs at her last Merrilville Christmas Choir Concert. "I had a solo and I sang 'I Hope You Dance,' but my favorite number was 'Feliz Navidad,'" Tarr said.

Influenced by an elementary school experience, Junior Melina Rivera still sings in high school. "When I joined the ambassadors in the second grade, it made me want to sing even more," Rivera said.

While "putting passion into every song," Senior Rebecca Neville stands in the spotlight at the Holiday Choir Concert. Neville has been in choir since the first grade. "Music is what I love. That's why I'm going to the University of Kansas to be a music educator," Neville said.

Sophomore Payton Parker stands with confidence as he sings at the choir concert. "When it all comes together, everyone on stage, the rich sound just blows everyone away," Parker said. Parker has other plans for music in the future as he prepares for a rap career.





# caroling choir.

For the first time in over 14 years, the Vocalteens and the Velveteens competed at the Indiana State School Music Association (ISSMA) at Perry Meridian High School in Indianapolis.

Taking 20 members with them, the Vocalteens received a gold rating with "Bridge Over Troubled Water" and the Velveteens, taking 12 members with them, received a gold rating with "Lift Thine Eyes." Choir Director Mrs. Melinda Reinhart said she was "very, very pleased with their performances this year."

Both The Moore Ensemble and Earl Ensemble received gold ratings with "River In Judea" and "Shoheen" respectively. In addition to this, 17 soloists received gold ratings, making a total of 21 gold ratings.

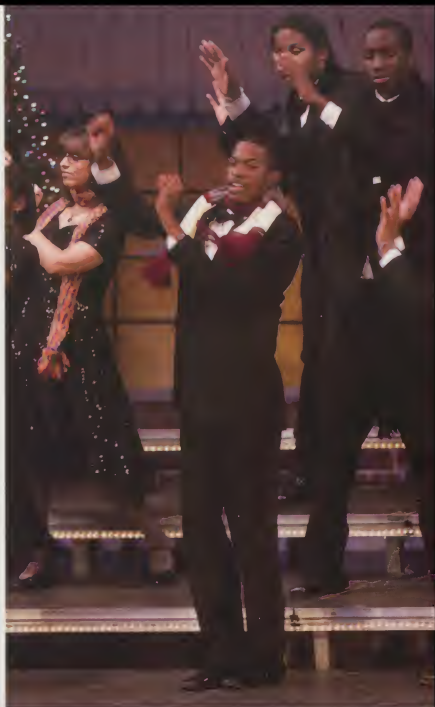
One of the soloists, Junior Melina Rivera earned a gold rating for "When I Have Sung My Songs."

"It's a lot of fun," Rivera said. Rivera plans to compete again next year.

Another soloist, Senior Kandace Greene, received a gold rating for singing "O Dileo Meo Dolce Ardor."

Greene said that she was shocked when she discovered she had earned a gold rating, but she was very excited.

"I feel like I performed well, but there's always room for improvement," Greene said.



After preparing for eight weeks, both in and out of school, Sophomore Tyrone Brown sings at the first choir concert of the year. Brown went to Indiana State School Music Association (ISSMA) with an all-male ensemble and received a gold rating.



As "one of the best moments," Junior Anthony Watson performs a solo at the Christmas Choir Concert. "We've worked on so much that I can't even remember what my solo was," Watson said. Watson's solo was one of many individual performances.



Sophomore Mariah Trigg stands at the center of attention at the annual choir concert. "Choir gives everybody else the opportunity to meet new people. We don't get enough credit, but I hope that changes in the future," Trigg said.



Sophomore Michael Barnett sings because of the inspiration of one of his "most valued vocalist." "Whitney Houston really inspires me because she has an amazing voice and good talent. She hasn't made a bad song yet," Barnett said.









As he dances, Linus (Junior Russo) clutches his love for his security blanket. "I thought the day would be fun and different. I have never been in a play before," Gilsfeldt. "Linus is so confident and joyful. The character has a genuine joy about him." In the scene, My Blanket and Mr. Cook said, "I talked about my blanket and how much I love it. It was on several scenes. I got to be really goofy, funny and be positive with it."



Debating whether to change her red super-suit to a high-cut under-dress, Sawyer (Jenna Matthews) begins to talk about confidence. "My group seems more 'Superman' and 'The Green Club.' The Green Club was supposed to be cool but the kids were messing around, dancing and messing. It just made it even more fun!" Junior said.



Expressing her love for Schroeder (Senior Jonathan Wallace), Lucy (Senior Caitlin Spies) sits on top of Schroeder's piano. "When I was singing her song called 'Schroeder,' she talks about her love. Schroeder meant her much she wants to marry me. But I'm not getting married," Wallace said. "The Spies are my favorite group. I had to go around with a survey asking everyone if I got a great rap person and other questions about me," Spies said.

you're a good man

Charlie Brown

After having the last President interpreted as the president of a party, the administration of the 1980s, "Charlie Brown."

How did these actors prepare to live a career in the 1980s?

"I was really living at first because I'm good in acting and I'm a good person. But I was the kid inside of me, not the adult," said Junior Anthony Watson.

Some members said a different approach by making the play in front of a full house of students and parents.

He seemed surprised that the kids in the audience actually said the same thing that the play was about.

And in the end, we were a group, and I helped it become more believable in the stage," said Junior Anthony Watson.

Senior Charlie Brown was really a surprise, and suggested that other students might be able to make a change.

"It would be cool if we could do some of the same things that we did in the past. I think it would be a great idea to have a play about the same thing."

Overall, the cast seemed to be the play, and they were glad to be there.

They had the opportunity

'I just let the kid inside of me come out.'

Anthony Watson





A group of young women are performing on a stage. They are wearing various costumes, including a pink dress, a yellow shirt, a white shirt, a blue dress, and a red dress. They are all striking dynamic poses with their arms raised. The background features large, stylized, colorful figures in shades of red, green, and blue, which appear to be part of the stage set. The lighting is bright and colorful, creating a vibrant atmosphere.

A young woman with blonde hair, wearing a pink polka-dot dress over a black polka-dot top and white sneakers, stands in profile holding a small, dark, ornate object.



*"I've been a part of the Revue ever since my freshman year, and this was my first year hosting," Junior Matt McLindon said. McLindon co-hosted with Sophomore Kelsey Boone and Senior Andrew Grzybowski. McLindon was able to co-host after winning The Revue his sophomore year.*



The Drama Club hosts a talent show called "The Revue." This year, the show was hosted February 11 and 12.

The show was practiced for weeks and months before the night. "We started planning for the Revue about a month ago," said Junior Derek Shea said.

The show was structured a little differently than previous years. Instead of having the same show twice, different acts performed for each night. The

group that won the first night performed again on the second night, competing to see who would take home the winning title. The varsity Dance Team was the winner on the first night.

"This year we did our jazz routine because we wanted to show the school that we do not just do pom. We can do numerous other types of dances," Junior Briana Lee said. The Dance Team lost to Junior Camilia Logwood on the second night.

"I was very happy to win the competition because there were other very good performances, and I was not sure if I could pull it off, but I did," Logwood said.

Although The Revue was a great evening for some students, some were very disappointed in the crowd turnout.

"The Revue is a great show and I just wish others will come to see others perform real talent," Junior Unique Jeter said.

*bleeding talent.*



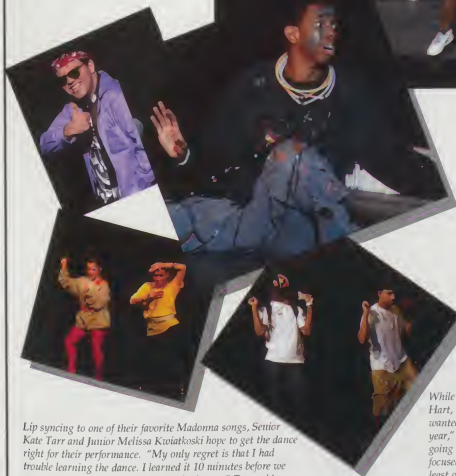
# bringing down the house

Lip . Sync . 2008



"I did it because I had to conquer my stage fright," Senior Dolaps Macarthy said. Macarthy won second place with Seniors Monica Spears, Nadia Millard and Chanee Robinson. They performed the song "Single Ladies."

Using a Guitar Hero guitar, Junior Dylan Certa impersonates Elvis Presley while lip syncing "Money for Nothing" by Dire Straights. "I was not nervous. My plan was to go in there, get in, get out, hit 'em and forget 'em," Certa said. He plans to do even better at next year's Lip Sync contest.



Lip syncing to one of their favorite Madonna songs, Senior Kate Tarr and Junior Melissa Kwiatkowski hope to get the dance right for their performance. "My only regret is that I had trouble learning the dance. I learned it 10 minutes before we went on and I wish I would've practiced more," Tarr said.

Every year since 2005, students crowd into the auditorium for the Lip Sync contest. Students in the contest perform a choreographed dance routine to songs of their choice.

"Lip Sync gives students the opportunity to be creative and entertain their fellow classmates," Senior Tracey Walker said.

Groups hit the stage December 15, 2008, with high hopes of taking home the \$300 grand prize, but only one group achieved this goal.

"Us and Them" featuring Seniors Jacque's Waters, Brianna Clark, Stephanie Hart, Jasmine Jones, Jasmine Woods, Rhonda McGuire, Staci Harris, Berman

Norwood, Ronald Landrum and Markella Papamihalakis took the prize home.

"I was very pleased that we won because we worked hard and the crowd responded really well to the performance," Woods said.

Even though the other groups didn't win, many agreed with the overall verdict.

"Us and Them" were really good and I was not surprised they won because they had everybody out of their seats," Senior Stephen Hart said.

Many students will remember that night for years to come, while others will prepare for the next year's show. "I hope next year's show will have more diverse songs," Sophomore Chelsea Campbell said.



While performing during the Lip Sync contest, the winners, Seniors Staci Harris, Rhonda McGuire, Jasmine Woods, Brianna Clark and Jacque's Waters get a standing ovation. "I couldn't believe we won," Senior Staci Harris said. "It felt great to win because I know I worked so hard," Harris added.

"I did it to show people I have talent. I had to show that you can shine more when you do it by yourself," Junior Jamel Danzy said. Danzy performed the song, "Disturbia" by Rihanna. "I wasn't nervous at all because I've been in front of people my whole life," Danzy said.

Lip syncing the song "Get Me Bodied" by Beyonce, the senior group of Alayasia Barnes, Keoria Patterson, Ariel Parker, Jessica Aldridge and Sophomore Rachel Walton wins third place. "I just wanted to do something really big for my senior year," Barnes said.



While performing the song, "Swagga Like Us," with Senior Stephen Hart, Senior Justin Bernard shows money to the crowd. "I've wanted to compete in the Lip Sync competition since my freshman year," Bernard said. Bernard said he practiced for two weeks before going on stage and that he was not nervous at all, just excited and focused. "I felt we were better than most groups. We should have at least gotten second," Bernard added.





### *Velveteens*

Director Mrs. Melinda Reinhart

Front row: Courtney Bargfeldt, Amesha Smith, Danniella Gregoline; Second row: Bianca Johnson, Brenda Pidgeon, Nicole Varela, Kiara Stephens-Brown; Back row: Bianca Earl, Kourtney Glvens.



### *Choralteens*

Director Mrs. Melinda Reinhart

Front row: Markella Papamihalakis, Kimberly Tapper, Courtney Bargfeldt, Amesha Smith, Melina Rivera, Kelly Tarr, Danniella Gregoline, Kendall Bonick; Second row: Nicole Varela, Caitlyn Kotul, Anthony Watson, Tyrone Brown, Payton Parker, Aaron Curtis, Kayla Johnson, Kiara Stephens-Brown; Third row: Angelica Dix, Rebecca Neville, Russell Cole, Lawrence Scroggins, Bianca Earl, Bianca Johnson; Back row: Brenda Pidgeon, Kourtney Glvens, Kandace Greene, Kristin Alvarez.



### *Varsity Choir*

Director Mrs. Melinda Reinhart

Front row: Diamond Pullins, Kaitlin Grzybowski, Sarah Barnard, Sarah Dora, Airtion Timmons, Le-Asya Carrington, Jazmin Jones, Sierra Collier; Second row: Octavia Dillon-Wilson, Chardonnay Balkcom, Stormie Schilling, Dana Collins, Mariah Trigg, Tatiana Ruiz, Adrienne Butts, Alyson Strong; Third row: Brianna Fotinos, Daryl Tonneff, Melody Harris, Whitney Knisley, Jalisa Mosley, Aaliyah Harmon, Patricia Spikes; Back row: Brooklyn Russell, Jaleesa Holmes, Spree Lang, Kayla Greene.



### *Vocalteens*

Director Mrs. Melinda Reinhart

Front row: Payton Parker, Kelly Tarr, Tyrone Brown, Markella Papamihalakis, Kendall Bonick, Anthony Watson; Second row: Kayla Johnson, Russell Cole, Kimberly Tapper, Melina Rivera, Caitlyn Kotul, Aaron Curtis, Kristin Alvarez; Back row: Rebecca Neville, Lawrence Scroggins, Kandace Greene, Angelica Dix.



### *Treblemakers*

Director Mrs. Melinda Reinhart

Front row: Raven Smith, Bryanna Pope, Ashley Welker, Charlisha Leeks, Che'la McClain; Second row: Camilia Logwood, Alysa Surney, Tianna Williams, Brechey White; Back row: Kenshell Whisby, Treasura Sowell, Andrea Campos.



### *Concert Choir*

Director Mrs. Melinda Reinhart

Front row: Rodney Trigg, Katelynn Usher, Erin Segrest, Shaunice Holbrook, Mary Williams, Charly Scollon, Victor Rios; Second row: Folahanmi Oduwaye, Megan White, Angelica Spaw, Caitlynn Anderson, Tia Rucker, Alexx Wright; Third row: Michael Barnett, Elizabeth Whelan, Eva Foley, Jasmine Thomas, Mallory Parker, Nick Stovall; Back row: Mathew Fayson, Erik White, Ryan Bishop.

choirs.





### *Pirate Council*

Sponsor Mrs. LaFonda Morris  
Front row: Brianna Clark, Megan Harms, Kieko Cooley, Lakeshia Miles, Mark Campbell II; Second row: Ryan Roddy, Hannelore Reynolds, Alyssa Shirr, Lesley Richards; Back row: Tyler Roark, Johnathan Wallace, Brandon Taylor; Not Pictured: Emilia Stojova.



### *Media Services*

Front row: Mrs. Bonnie Nicksch, Mrs. Janelle Bowen, Mrs. Mary Neylon.



### *Peer Helpers*

Sponsor Ms. Grace Dewald  
Front row: Daniella Carbajal, Keiko Cooley, Lakeshia Miles, Hannelore Reynolds, Ms. Grace Dewald; Second row: Ava Meux, Giovanni Jenkins, Brandon Taylor, Tanisha Miles; Back row: Ken Davis, Rah-Kimm Cherry, Elijah Samuels.



### *Media Center*

Front row: Mrs. Patricia Smith, Mrs. Elizabeth Kenyon, Mrs. Donna Phelps.



### *Peer Mediators*

Sponsor Mrs. Veronica Maldonado  
Front row: Ava Meux, Raevyn Harper, Mark Campbell II; Chelsea Ojervides, Mrs. Veronica Maldonado; Second row: Hannah Webster, Shelby Newell, Brandon Taylor, Kandace Greene; Back row: Elijah Samuels, Rah-Kimm Cherry.



### *Security*

Front row: Jennifer Jenkins, Rose Pulliam, Nicole Kendrick; Back row: Daryl Bowie Sr., Brad Best, Ron Thomas.



### *Night Maintenance*

Front row: MaryPHONE, Dragica Gajic, Nada Kolar, Marcia Sekulowska; Second row: Helen Moravsky, Nisa Milosavljevic, Christina Haverly, Vesna Mitic; Back row: Mark Robinson, Robert Fernando, Zoran Stefanovic.



### *Day Maintenance*

Front row: Angie Knezevic, Joy Varela; Back row: Frank Hudak, Don Hickman, Dean Staot.







## get character.

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Coming into high school, every newcomer expects the diversity of people that accompanies a large school. It's impossible to know every one of the 2218 students that attend this high school. Walking in the hallway, many students, a blur of faces, pass us by. Seldom does one of us stop and wonder who these people are. These blurred faces are the students and staff of Merrillville High School, and distinguishing individuals from the masses seems difficult. This also makes setting yourself apart from others even more challenging. "Life isn't about finding yourself. Life is about creating yourself." —George Bernard Shaw



# freshmen.

Carlos Aaron  
Danielle Abel  
Sabrina Abrams  
Ana Adame  
Ashley Ahlborn  
Dominic Alderson  
Larry Alderson  
Jamal Allen



Dion 'Dra Anderson  
Heather Anderson  
Shakir Anderson  
Davina Anthony  
Thomas Anthony IV  
Mansoor Asif  
April Ashe  
Jose Avalos



Rico Ayala  
Celeste Babilonia  
Nicholas Badali  
Jacob Bahena  
April Bailey  
Charesa Baker  
Rosalyn Baker  
Chardonay Balkom



Richard Balkom  
Amanda Banaschak  
Talley Barker  
Zachary Barnack  
Sarah Barnard  
Danae Baskin  
Brittney Baus  
Abel Bedolla



Arturo Bedolla  
Aaron Bennett  
Peter Berlanga  
Kourtney Berry  
Lucia Best  
Lauren Blackwell  
Montaa Blair  
Joshua Blink



Douglas Boender  
Kaleena Bretzinger  
Aisha Briner  
Emily Britton  
Gabriel Britton  
Adam Brodie  
Gregory Broussseau  
Aisha Janes Brown



Aisha Lynn Brown  
Aliyah Brown  
Darrail Brown  
Erica Brown  
Nia Brown  
Bruce Brown Jr.  
Bria Brumfield  
Alisa Bryant



Darren Bryant  
Larry Bryant  
Stephens Buckrop  
Laquisha Buford  
Peter Bult  
Jennette Burbage  
Jennayi Burden







Jordan Burton  
Adrienne Butts  
Lisette Cabrera  
Michael Cabrera  
Federico Calderon  
Rodolfo Camarena Jr.  
Mallika Carbajal  
Jeanpierre Cardenas



Jordan Carey  
Paul Carey  
Lisuren Camiello  
Le-Anya Carrington  
Auriele Carson  
Taylor Carter  
Joshua Cervantez  
Alonzo Charles



Rah-Sha'a Cherry  
Ontario Childs Jr.  
Habiba Choudhry  
Nakia Clark  
Khari Coker  
Keonna Colbert  
Jere Cole  
Kacey Cole



Samuel Coleman  
Dallas Coleman Jr.  
Sierra Collier  
Dana Collins  
Shanteha Collins  
Timothy Colomb  
Talia Constant  
Rashawn Conwell



Colin Cook  
Lesh Cook  
Indya Cooke  
Larry Cooper  
Mellika Coops  
Tyler Core  
Jacqueline Coria  
Paris Courtney



DeVaughn Cox  
Dylan Crane  
Tyran Crawford  
Brennon Crowder  
Brandon Culver  
Jamie Cupid  
Anthony Curtis  
Kaitlyn Cygan



Conrad Czesnyka  
Penny Czesnyka  
Destiny Dalton  
Christopher Davis  
Dean Davis  
Desiree Davis  
Jalen Davis  
Verchon DeBrossard



Brianna Decaussemaker  
Jose DelReal  
Sheron Dentie  
Michael Devany  
Daniel Diaz  
Megan Dicken  
Michael Dicken  
Octavia Dillion-Wilson



Anthony Disco  
Alexandri Donomars  
Olshanna Doss  
Joseph Drapesu  
Shaxavler Drayton  
Attwood Duncan IV  
Holland Earl



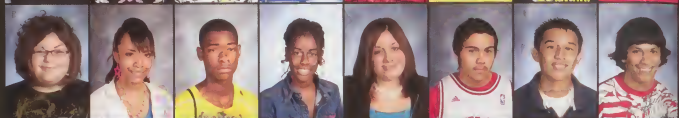
Leslie Esterling  
Brianna Eastland  
Aaliyah Edwards  
Alois Edwards  
April Edwards  
Aries Edwards  
Melissa Eggleston  
Jasmine Ervin



Dane Ezernack  
John Farmer  
Michael Farmer  
Jessica Felker  
Gerardo Flores  
Jah' Rome Forpe  
Antonio Foley  
Jalen Foster



Brianna Fofinos  
Kyair Frye  
Nathaniel Gaines  
Antonette Gailday  
Jade Galvan  
Eliso Gamino  
Abraham Garcia  
Antonio Garcia



Crystal Garcia  
Katie Garrison  
Andrea Garza  
Garett Gauli  
Jacob Gibson  
Sean Gibson  
Tierra Glenn  
Jose Gonzalez



Elbryn Goode  
Shawn Graham  
Kenyah Grant  
Kayla Greene  
Keshun Griffin  
Cameron Grundy  
Kaitlin Graybowick  
Edgar Guadarrama



Samuel Gubitz  
Morgan Gunn  
Christopher Ha  
Bennett Hackett  
Monté La Juan Ham  
Victoria Hanthorn  
Tiara Hardy  
Aaliyah Harmon



Mathew Harms  
Taitana Harrell  
Brent Harris  
Jason Harris  
Loreal Harris  
Mariah Harris  
Melody Harris  
Michael Harris

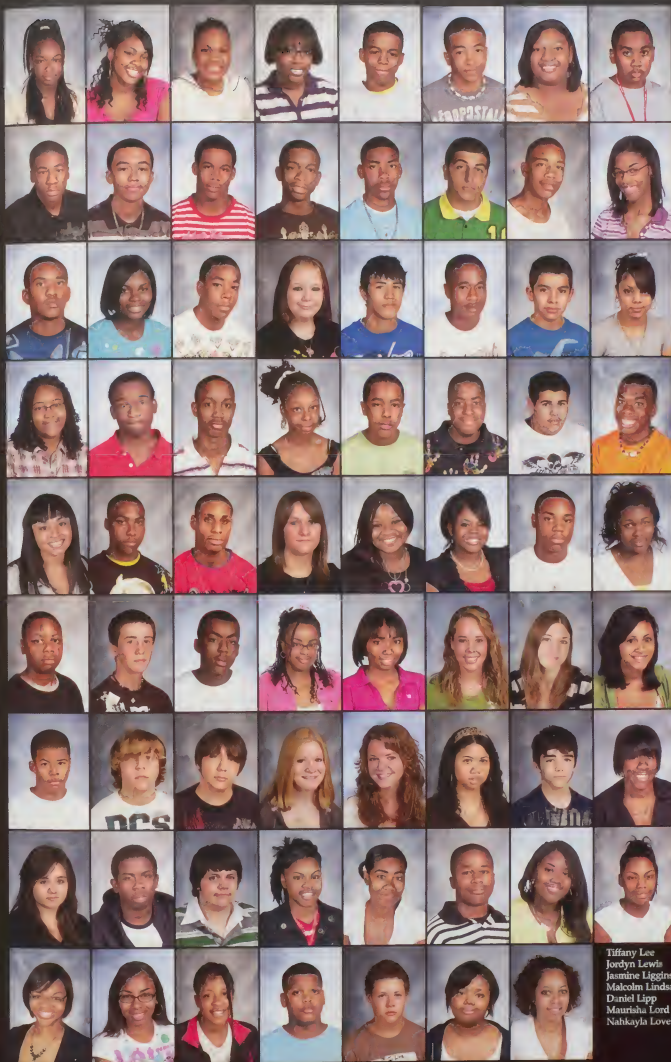


Mychil Harris  
Myeshia Harris  
Tasia Harris  
Latonya Harrison  
Anila Harvey  
Cymburiah Haynes  
Victoria Henderson  
Shalondrea Henry



Isabel Hernandez  
Briana Higareda  
Loreal Hill  
Raven Holcomb  
Ja'Vai Holcomb  
Hatley Holden  
Michael Holden





Jaleesa Holmes  
Raven Hope  
Sherese Hopson  
Ashlin Howard  
Justin Howard  
Logan Hubbard  
Marquis Hudson  
Christopher Hughes

Benjamin Hulet  
Daniel Humes  
Montrel Humphrey  
Marchon Hunter  
William Isbell  
Adel Issa  
Andre Jackson  
brinesha Jackson

Derryck Jackson  
Ebony Jackson  
Corey Jacobs  
Robin Jalech  
Jacob Jara  
Frank Jefferson  
Daniel Jimenez  
Frances Jimenez

Domynek Johnson  
Freedom Johnson  
Jonathan Johnson  
Kiarra Johnson  
Paul Johnson  
Troy Johnson  
Darren Johnson Jr.  
Sir-James Edward Joiner III

Brittany Jones  
Cashmere Jones  
Edward Jones  
Jacquelyn Jones  
Jasmine Jones  
Jazmin Jones  
Michael Jones  
Phashawnti Joseph

Trey Kelly  
Tyler Kepchir  
Tyshawn Kidd  
Jasmine King  
Tyensha Kinsey  
Lauren Kiser  
Monika Knight  
Whitney Knisley

Jared Knox  
Justin Koenemann  
Nathan Koenemann  
Katherine Kolbert  
Morgan Lamb  
Spree Lang  
Jacob Larson  
Jamale Laster

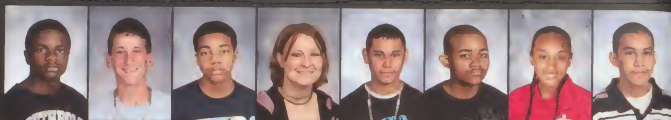
Carley Laughead  
Matthew Lawson  
Benjamin Ledesma  
Gina Lee  
Jasmine Lee  
Joseph Lee  
Kayla Lee  
LeDaria Lee

Tiffany Lee  
Jordyn Lewis  
Jasmine Liggins  
Makaela Lindsay  
Daniel Lipp  
Maurisha Lord  
Nahkayla Loveless





Anthony Luckett  
Levi Lungaro  
Jaylen Lynch  
Sarah MacDonald  
Jacob Madera  
Johnette Maffett  
Samantha Mahone  
Antonio Mares



Kaitlyn Marple  
Byanca Marquez  
Clarice Mars  
Robert Marshall  
Dora Martin-Ellison  
Cirila Martinez  
Spencer Mason  
Ashley Massie



Kylie Maiste  
Alejandra Matin  
Natieka Mathews  
Leonard Mathews II  
Tiffany Mays  
Jeremiah McAfee  
Antonio McClay  
Mercedes McClendon



Nakel McClinton  
Brandon McCotry  
Christopher McCoy  
Destricka McDaniel  
Brandon McDonald  
Charles McGee  
Sharon McGee  
Kevin Meacham



Kayleen Mendoza  
Bella Mercado  
Tiyasha Millander  
Darryl Miller  
Jasmyne Miller  
Kristina Miller  
Paige Miller  
Shayveon Miller



Mackenzie Milon  
Rodney Mitchell Jr.  
Christopher Monghan  
Amber Moore  
Sasha Morales  
Tremel Morgan  
Brad Morris  
Jalisa Mosley



John Mosley  
Kylie Mulser  
Bret Murphy  
Kathleen Murphy  
Reveen Murray  
Brandon Neal  
Joyce Negron  
Ezra Nelson



Kendall Nelson  
Mekyla Nelson  
Kandice Nicholson  
Michael Nickson  
Amanda Noojin  
Travis Norman  
John Nostich  
Alyssa Nymeyer



Brandon Odum  
Folashunmi Oduwaye  
Joshua Oliver  
Mary Olisqui  
Sarah Onohin  
Leticia Onilveros  
Graciela Ortiz







Selena Otano  
 Doreisha Owens  
 Luis Ozuna  
 Luis Padilla  
 Andrea Pagan  
 Anthony Palm  
 Briddyn Palm  
 Faneline Panyai



Sean Panning  
 Mia Patikas  
 Lekisha Patterson  
 Joseph Patton  
 Rachel Paul  
 Tony Pena  
 Darryl Peppers  
 Moises Perez



David Perkins  
 Curisha Peters  
 Charles Pickett  
 Charleston Pickett  
 Dorian Pickett  
 Benedicte Pierre  
 Caleb Pirtle  
 Anthony Pitts Jr.



Andrew Porter  
 Ashley Powell  
 Aurielle Powell  
 Brittney Powell  
 Kemonte Price  
 Ebonee Pulliam  
 Diamond Pullins  
 Crystal Quintero



Shiketa Randolph  
 Amber Ratcliff  
 Airtus Reed  
 Albert Reed  
 Andrea Reed  
 D'Andre Reed  
 Jessica Reed  
 Samuel Reed



Ashley Reynolds  
 Michael Rhoades  
 Lindsey Rick  
 Joshua Riley  
 Lawrence Riley  
 Kenneth Riley Jr.  
 Saul Rivera  
 Chazz Roberts



Keon Roberts  
 Zachary Roberts  
 Adrian Robinson  
 Cameron Robinson  
 Lo' real Robinson  
 Miesha Robinson  
 Rasheeda Robinson  
 Tachina Robinson



Briayan Rodriguez  
 David Rodriguez  
 Javier Romero Jr.  
 Alysea Rose  
 Teriana Ruiz  
 Ashley Russell  
 Brooklyn Russell  
 Lugmanan Ruth



Raven Saavedra  
 Nikko Saurdal  
 Yurizan Serna  
 Lexus Saez  
 Caleb Sanchez  
 Myriam Sanchez  
 Rudolph Sanchez IV



Zachary Sunderfur  
Dorant Savage  
Stormie Schilling  
Tyler Schilling  
Dennis Scott  
Tyler Scott  
Raven Seals  
Amon Searcy



Edward Seay Jr.  
Patrick Sewec  
Adam Serwacki  
Alante Sharp  
Tyler Shockley  
Deborah Shoulder  
Averyl Sims  
Brishana Sims



Cortez Sims  
Jalena Sittrunk  
Amber Smith  
Briana Smith  
Chantice Smith  
Dunkelle Smith  
Inasha Smith  
Korey Smith



Tachina Smith  
Sylvester Smith III  
Raven Stelling  
Quanzell Snowden  
Katelynn Sobleski  
Brandon Spencer  
Patricia Spikes  
Ian Stacks



Miranda Stewart  
Nigel Stewart  
Jeremy Stwall  
Stevie Strom  
Alyson Strong  
Claudia Strong  
Amanda Stuchly  
Jahnia Sutherland



Daniel Tarulis  
Alexis Taylor  
India Taylor  
LaShawnta Taylor  
Shawndrea Taylor  
Teanuah Taylor  
Dai John Thomas  
Channon Thomas



Jazmyyn Thomas  
Jordan Thomas  
Kirieida Thomas  
Brianna Thompson  
Lu'Teen Thompson  
Michael Thompson  
Justin Tibbs  
Daryl Tonneff



Regina Torres  
Alexis Taylor  
Cornell Tucker  
Anthony Turnam  
Christopher Turner  
Mercedes Turner  
Rovon Turner  
Trent Turner



Brittney Upshaw  
Alicia Vauxh  
Brandon Vlasic  
Brian Walker  
Briana Walker  
Cheloni Walker  
Joshua Walker





Kenneth Walsh  
Carillus Walters III  
Morgan Walton  
Dana Warren  
Jaelah Washington  
Jasmine Washington  
Kayla Washington  
Kajiana Washington

Ray Washington  
Antonio Watkins  
Brittany Watkins-Thigpen  
Breyon Watson  
Corey Weatherspoon  
Adrian Weaver  
Erin Weiss  
Marabon Wiesley

Jrriana West  
De'Qua West  
Michael Whelan  
Erik White  
Paris White  
Wayne Whitmer  
Kent Whitt Jr.  
Lenzie Wilkins

Andrew Williams  
Ashley Williams  
Béanna Williams  
Christian Williams  
Davonte Williams  
Donicqua Williams  
Ryan Williams  
Alva Wilson

Danielle Winburn  
Shermika Winston  
Ashley Witkowski  
Brandi Wolak  
Floyd Woods  
Kourtney Woods  
Kyrin Woods Jr.  
Taylor Worrell

Brandon Wright  
Kaylene Wright  
Jennifer Yanez  
Jonathan Yanez  
Keith Yockey  
Brandon Young  
LaShonia Young



Freshmen Dean Davis, Mansoor Afrifee, Paige Miller, Raven Hobson, Nahkayla Lovelless, 8th grader Jerrean Williamson, Freshmen Rudolph Sanchez, Danielle Abel, Samantha Mahone, Andrea Reed.





# sophomores.

Taisha Abrams  
Brandi Adams  
Jenniyne Adams  
Justyn Adams  
Chebea Adams-Combs  
Aqasha Alexander  
Shantia Alexander  
Dontrell Allen

Tierra Allen  
Michael Ambrose  
Archibald Amicoelau  
Callynn Anderson  
Nekaylaw Anderson  
Anthony Angotti  
Andrew Appleton  
Roy Arambula

Victor Anallino  
Daniel Armstrong  
Arnold Arriaga  
Alyson Austin  
Javier Avalos  
Inecia Ayers  
Eleny Babilonis  
Brittany Bailey

Derek Bailey  
Floyd Bailey  
Samantha Bailey  
Shaquille Baker  
Samantha Balash  
Taylor Ball  
Benjamin Banks

Maria Barajas  
Alaina Barbalace  
Michael Barnett  
Ariel Barnister  
Ashley Barral  
Laryssa Barrera  
Antonio Bates  
Michelle Battle

Alynn Batty  
Sabrina Beach  
Keahla Beasley  
Gabrielle Bell  
Ana Bellman  
Erin Biesak  
Nicole Blas  
Durren Blaylock

Jordan Blocker  
Joseph Blockson  
Valerie Bly  
Kelsie Boone  
Douglas Boskamp  
Lachapelle Bradley  
Janay Bray  
Jasmin Brooks

Rashonda Brooks  
Heather Brown  
Myasha Brown  
Ryann Brown  
Tyronne Brown  
Zerrick Brown  
Osha Brownlee







Vidal Buenrostro  
Tanisha Buford  
Clyde Byrd III  
Jacobs Gedicks  
A'Shanti Caldwell  
Crystal Calhoun  
Julius Cameron  
Blair Campbell



Carl Campbell  
Chelsea Campbell  
Wilfred Campbell  
Andrea Campos  
Jerrick Cannon  
Daniela Carbajal  
Kevin Carana  
Victor Chambliss



Kelli Chavez  
Blanca Clark  
Brandon Clark  
Jasmine Clark  
La'Quon Clark  
Tina Clark  
Kimberly Climack  
Russell Cole II



Emanuel Conner  
Rahim Conwell  
Nathan Cook  
Jerron Cooke  
Hirut Crawford-Taylor  
Messay Crawford-Taylor  
Breshawn Crowder  
Paul Crowley



Antonio Cusihuizo  
Anita Cuevas  
John Cuevas  
Jory Cunningham  
Ariel Currie  
Ronald Currie Jr.  
Bethany Currier  
Ka'Kisha Daniel



Kyle Daniels  
Kelsey Danzy  
La Veda Davies  
Jamie Davis  
Ken Davis  
Tyler Davis  
Wilbert Davis III  
Sterling Day



Melissa Delgado  
Carlos Dickerson Jr.  
Anthony D'Cing  
Rashid Dila  
Nevena Djurdjevic  
Meredith Dobes  
Katie Domikaitis  
Robert Dominick-Warren



Sarah Dora  
Danielle Douglas  
Darian Dowdell  
Demetria Downing  
Charles Downs  
Jovan Dunslop  
Francis Dusik  
Alexis Earl



Diamond Easton  
Kortney Eaton  
Ashon Edwards  
Brittany Elam  
Cameron Ellis  
Cordey Ellis  
Carlos Estrada-Barcenas



Lawrence Evans  
Beverly Farmer-French  
Olatokunbo Fashawe  
Matthew Fayson  
Maisha Feagin  
Nicholas Feliciano  
Andre' Felton  
Stephanie Ferrell



Zachary Fidler  
Raven Finch  
Annissa Fitzpatrick  
Dimitry Flores  
Matthew Flores  
Salina Flores  
Jonathan Floyd  
Eva Foley



Phil Ford  
Anthony Frederick  
Chantessa Freeman  
Christian Frink  
Robert Gabriel Jr.  
Amber Garcia  
Joseph Garcia  
Najvia Gaslin



Monte Gates  
Destiny Gensel  
Tiera Gilbert  
Erica Gilliam  
Michael Gillis  
LaVontechia Gist  
Brianna Givens  
Rashad Givens



Eric Glover  
Romell Gore  
Cloria Graham  
Jeremy Graham  
Imari Green  
Antoine Gregory Jr.  
Andrew Gresham  
Jasmin Griffin



Tierra Grubbs  
Briana Hackett  
Kelvin Hagan  
Faith Halston  
Brandon Hall  
Brittany Hall  
Sean Hall  
Joshua Hammonds



Tiara Hannah  
Kalliope Hiramantas  
Brett Harley Jr.  
Clifton Harmon III  
Sydney Harold  
Raevyn Harper  
Brandon Harris  
Dajah Harris



Tyler Harris  
Maurice Harris Jr.  
Dylan Harrison  
Vanessa Harwood  
Lavante Hawkins  
Philip Hays  
Kelle Henderson  
Lakema Hendricks



Kevin Henry II  
Samantha Hertl  
Shelby Hicks  
Chandler Hill  
Malcolm Hindman  
Tony Hines  
Joshua Hogan





Shaunice Holbrook  
Darrtus Holland  
Courtney Hollingsworth  
Mitchell Holman  
Angela Hopkins  
Azari Hopsan  
Tyley Houser  
Dean Hughes



Christopher Huley  
Al'Asi Humbert  
Stephanie Husek  
Aaron Hutchison  
Mofoluwaso Ilikunle-Salami  
Ericson Jackson  
Jamaal Jackson  
Arthur Jacobs



Ashley Jamerson  
Alyssa James  
Kiara James  
Renitta James  
Taylor James  
Angelique Jernigan  
Marcus Jernigan Jr.  
Aaron Johnson



Ananda Johnson  
Chantel Johnson  
Cordney Johnson  
Kina Johnson  
Michael Johnson  
Shikyah Johnson  
Tyree Johnson  
Michael Joiner Jr.



Brea Jones  
Jacob Jones  
Jeremiah Jones  
Joseph Jones  
Jurnae Jones  
Kyle Jones  
Laron Jones  
Glenn Jones Jr.



David Jordan  
Jalen Joshua  
Andrew Kapitan  
Eleni Kazonis  
Maurice Kelly Jr.  
Clay Kendera  
Reginald Kennebrew Jr.  
Katherine Keller



Anthony Kidd  
Rebekkah Kimani  
Marvin Kimbrough  
Andrew King  
Anthony King  
Darien King  
Abigail Kirkpatrick  
Christopher Knight



Kameron Knight  
Sara Kopp  
Jacob Kopp  
Michael Koulianos  
Michael Krizan  
Candice Lambert  
Luzen Lambert  
Eric Lara



Angela Ledesma  
La'Tasha Lee  
Shalish Lee  
Charlene Leeks  
Jerin Lloyd  
Stephanie Lobody  
Ashley Lofton





Jelani Louis  
Leroy Love  
Jessica Lowery  
Alexander Luna  
Christopher Mabone  
Tamera Macklin  
Brittani Madison  
Melanie Manning

Antwon Marshall Jr.  
Kendrell Martin  
Morgan Martin  
Nikkisha Martin  
Julian Martinez  
Alexander Matthews  
Jordann Matthews  
Resauna Madsie

Rodrick May  
Mya Mayfield  
Bridley Mayo  
Che'La McChain  
Ariana McDaniel  
Nichole McFarland  
Monique McMillan  
Markell McMurray

Dayann's Medcalf  
Oswaldo Meza  
Hesther Mihal  
Marina Miljus  
Stephanie Miller  
Brandon Molnar  
Devon Moore  
Latoya Moore

Irving Moreno  
Tiarra Morris  
Marchon Moss  
Kenjao Nangin  
Matthew Neal  
Viviana Nevarez  
Joshua Nevins-Frey  
Shelby Newell

Alexandria Norton  
Yasmine Norwood  
Marissa Novak  
Nathaniel O'Neal  
Bruce Oliver  
Kewon Ollie  
James Ooms Jr.  
Serena Ornelas

Morgan Orsz  
Melanie Ortiz  
Cyndee Parker  
Mallory Parker  
Marcha Parker  
Payton Parker  
Cody Parkhurst  
Rutsumar Patel

Taylor Pearson  
Ashley Perez  
Caleb Perry  
Danielle Perry  
Joshua Perry  
Michael Perry  
Autry Phillips  
Kaitlyn Phillips

Tatiana Phillips  
Denzel Pierce  
Gabriel Pineda  
Rosaland Pirtle  
Demetrius Plainer  
Natasha Poellnitz  
Daniel Polischio







Gabriela Ponce  
Bryanna Pope  
Jumain Porter  
Jenice Porter  
Blanca Portis  
Mariah Portis  
Andrew Posey  
Christopher Powell

Deion Powell  
Ashayna Price  
Shaina Pulham  
BeeAnn Pulpitus  
Evangelos Quinstrom  
Alex Quijano  
Juan Ramos Jr.  
Zachary Raspopovich

Lisa Reaves  
Anton Redmon Jr.  
Jasmine Reed  
Kyle Reed  
Allysa Reyes  
Jesse Reyes  
Mellyssa Reyes  
Angela Reynolds

Cathlena Reynoso  
Arthur Richards  
Mariah Richardson  
Christian Rios  
Victor Rios  
Tanya Riveron  
Janae Roberts  
Antonio Robinson

Ariel Robinson  
Charles Robinson  
Ja Quice Robinson  
Jasmine Robinson  
Robert Robinson  
Reginald Robinson Jr.  
Rebekah Rochefort  
DJahnaba Roddy

Erika Rodriguez  
Jose Rodriguez  
Denissa Rogers-Giles  
Audrey Rojas  
Kalan Rollins  
Andre' Ross  
Jill Ross  
Skylar Rothgeb

Jarlen Rowe  
Kourtney Royster  
Tim Rucker  
Xavier Ruiz  
Breyana Russ  
Lara Russell  
Kelsey Sajdera  
Obdulis Salazar

Lindsay Sanchez  
Atallah Sanders  
Evan Sandifer  
Matthew Sodinger  
Zachary Schauer  
Kyle Schroeder  
Nicholas Schuffert  
Charity Scollon

Angela Scott  
Deanna Scott  
Adrienne Scott-Harris  
Erin Segrest  
Alejandro Serrano  
David Serrato  
Denziel Shaw



Brandon Shea  
Stacey Shotwell  
Joshua Shoulder  
Jillian Simmons  
Arlen Sims  
Joshua Sims  
Maximilian Skinner



Matthew Smiley  
Adriana Smith  
Brandon Smith  
Cameron M. Smith  
Cameron D. Smith  
Charles Smith  
Darius Smith  
Ernie Smith



Raven Smith  
Richard Smith  
Taylor Smith  
Victoria Smith  
Joshua Smithers  
Cheryl Smoot  
Raymond Snelling Jr.  
Donald Snields



Angelica Spaw  
Amber Spear  
Robert Spear III  
Blanca Stewart  
Marissa Stewart  
Christopher Stojanowski  
Ryan Streck  
Jason Strimbu



Kyle Strom  
Damon Strong  
Melanie Stubbs  
Jaimee Suggs  
Stephanie Sullivan  
Alycia Surney  
Kaitlyn Sweeney  
Ana Talaya



Brett Talton  
Joshua Tanner  
Kimberly Tapper  
Exxon Taylor  
Jose Taylor  
Terry Taylor  
Derek Taylor Jr.  
Michael Thidling



Damon Thomas  
Raymond Thomas  
Vladimir Thomas  
Anisha Thompson  
Taylor Thornley  
Brittany Thurson  
Devyn Tullison  
Alirion Timmons



Marleen Tundo  
Charles Tomaszewski  
Samantha Tomb  
Joshua Toth  
Leon Trajkovski  
Mariah Trigg  
Rodney Trigg



Richard Trotter  
Angela Tucker  
James Tucker Jr.  
Matthew Tuohy  
Makita Turner  
Mariah Turner  
Rodney Turner Jr.





Jennifer Zawada  
Patricia Zimmerman



Sophomores Creona Woodson, Ken Davis, Ariana McDaniel, Dan Armstrong, Tanya Riveron, Alyson Austin, Alexandria Norton, Adrienne Scott-Harris, Attallah Sanders.

Avery Unery  
Brandon Urzuqueta  
Bryan Urzuqueta  
Kathryn Usher  
Erica Valladares  
Allison Varela  
Rafael Vasquez  
Corina Vazquez

Victoria Verduzco  
Ronae Vickerstaff  
Jeremy Villarreal  
Deshjue Walker  
Kara Walker  
Rachel Walton  
Michael Ward  
Robert Ward

Shy Ward  
Brittany Ware  
Dakin Warfield  
Natalie Warren  
Kelsey Washburn  
Kentrell Washington  
Donisha Webster  
Jessica Weiss

Elizabeth Weiss  
Ashley Welker  
Maurika Wesley  
Carlissa Wheatley  
Elizabeth Whelan  
Kerobeth Whisby  
Breechey White  
Alexis Wiggins

Kyle Wiggins  
Lorien Wilkins  
Byron Williams  
Devon Williams  
Fantasia Williams  
Mary Williams  
Te'Kia Williams  
Tiana Williams

Kendrick Williams Jr.  
Robin Williamson  
Dallas Wilson  
Lunden Wise  
Rachel Withers  
Creona Woodson  
Alexa Wright  
DeVante Wright

Iresha Wright  
James Wright  
Kenneth Wright  
Jasmine Yarbrow  
April Yates  
Kaitlyn Yockey  
Hope Yocum  
Terrence Yon





# juniors.

Brian Acosta  
Christina Adams  
Debbie Adams  
Alexis Alamillo  
Melanie Alcala  
Vanessa Aldaz  
Stephen Alexander  
Mohsen Alghamli



Alexandria Allen  
Britney Allen  
Gina Almanez  
Jason Alvarez  
Allen Amicoletu  
Marisa Anderson  
Alexander Andino  
Edgar Ariss



Najeb Arife  
Lyndon Armstrong Jr.  
Darla Arthur  
Valanti Atlas  
Juan Ayala  
Steven Bailey  
Amber Balz  
Robert Balash



Kathleen Baran  
Walter Bardenas  
Shane Barksdale  
Robert Barric  
Ciana Birtce  
Olijuwan Bates  
Joshua Belko  
Jaylen Bentley



Faxton Berlinga  
Eric Black  
Hillard Black  
Angel Blakemore  
Tiara Bland  
Kevon Bowen  
Darnell Bowman  
Kyle Boyd



Brandon Brack  
Naudia Bradley  
Joseph Brignon  
Nicole Brindley  
James Brodie  
Kayra Brookins  
Jessica Brooks  
Rukiya Brooks



Tinesha Brooks  
Michael Brown  
Monte Brown  
Tamara Brown  
Colin Burke  
Daniel Burns  
Devon Burton  
Jazzmine Butler



Tyari Butler  
Peter Butler Jr.  
Ku Juan Byrd  
Julissa Cabrera  
Kunessa Caldwell  
Asia Calhoun  
Justin Cannon







Augusta Coneygee  
Nathan Carter  
Nathaniel Carter  
Brittney Castelli  
Michelle Cavazos  
Dylan Certa  
Mighan Cervantes  
Lakiya Chambers

Rah-Kimm Cherry  
Akeeba Clark  
Christopher Clark  
Asia Clayton  
Kimberly Coates  
Arlena Cobb  
Diamond Cody  
Madison Cofield

Branna Collins  
Kenneth Comer  
Alexis Connelly  
Janel Contreras  
Shyreonna Conwell  
Keiko Cooley  
Aubrey Cowser  
Steven Crague

Louis Craig  
Shauna Creal  
Ariel Crosby  
David Cross  
Maricia Cruz  
Jasmine Cummings  
Jonathon Curry  
Jamel Danzy

Stephan Dancy  
Bryonna Davis  
Renada Davis  
Timothy Davis  
Jeremy DeJesus  
Dianna DeLeon  
Eduardo DeLuna  
Mariah Dennis

Lacie Denwood  
Zachary DeRolf  
Efrain Diaz  
Julia Dicken  
Andrew Dicks  
Angelica Dix  
Angela Dominick  
Janika Donald

Elizabeth Dooley  
Vincent Dorsey  
Parker Douglas  
Ashley Douglass  
Rachel Drapeau  
Danielle Duke  
Henry Dunlap  
Deborah Dusik

Christian Echols  
Cha'yras Eddie  
Mahoganes Edmond  
Zachary Edwards  
Marques Elliott  
Michael Enghofer  
Alexis Epting  
Kaitlyn Farmer

Richard Furr  
Michael Fayson  
Charlette Feagin  
Kirstin Feign  
Andrew Felton  
Byron Ferrell  
Ashley Finch



Brandon Fleming  
Angela Flores  
Jacob Flores  
Martin Flores  
Michael Flores  
Brittany Flowers  
Einda Ford  
Zachary Forsell



Ashley French  
Ian Fultz  
Alcousdar Gacey  
Joshua Gaines  
Richard Galanis  
Catherine Gamino  
Arturo Garcia  
Cinthia Garcia



Jesus Garcia  
Amon Garner-Poston  
Elizabeth Garza  
Shakyla Gatewood  
Darrel Gearon  
Jarmel Gearon  
Tramel Gearon  
Scott Gedda



Heather Geeze  
Anye Gibson  
Maurice Gillespie  
Kourtney Givens  
William Coffin  
Mynor Gonzalez  
Perry Gordon IV  
Makolm Graham



Keyanah Grant  
Dominique Gray  
Nicholas Greene  
Jeffery Greer  
Dannielia Gregoline  
Cierra Griggs  
Jazzmyne Griggs  
Daniel Groni



Darren Grubbs  
Emmanuel Gullett  
Luis Gutierrez  
Steven Guzek  
Robert Hammond II  
Shantel Hampton  
Zackary Hansbury  
Jonathan Harmon



Harlene Haro  
Cord Harris  
Tizz Harrison  
Nathan Hartford  
Sharlie Harvey  
Lydia Hawkins  
Julie Hays  
Erica Henry



Angelica Hernandez  
Juan Hernandez  
Caitlyn Hill  
Ryan Hill  
Taylor Hill  
Michael Hollingsworth  
Dexter Hoskins III  
Briana Howard



Marcus Howard  
Ebony Huff  
Kanyah Hughes  
Derrick Hutton-Kinsey  
Britni Jackson  
Michelle Jackson  
Sarah Jackson





Shayne Jackson  
Ronald Jackson III  
Mark Jakubowicz  
Jericka Jasso  
Unique Jeter  
Brandon Johnson  
Chance Johnson  
Gavoni Johnson



Kayla Johnson  
Stephen Johnson  
Gwendolyn Joiner  
Janella Joiner  
George Jolly  
Courtney Jones  
Lashawna Jones  
Carolina Juarez



Tina Kaczmarek  
Zakyyah Karim  
Laura Kennedy  
Benjamin Kepchar  
Andrew Kerns  
Brittney Kidd  
Karl Kiel  
Dominique Kimbrough



Mickony Kinsey  
Allison Kish  
Charne Knight  
Justin Kourte  
Jaime Koppert  
Emily Kurczynski  
Samantha Kwell  
Melissa Kwiatkowski



Jermaine Lafayette  
Jermale Lafayette  
Luis Lagunas  
Landon Lang  
Pauline Laorden  
Jill Larson  
LaTara Lawrence  
Alexander Lawrosky



William Laws  
Briana Lee  
Christian Lee  
Jatrus Lee  
Shaboy Lee  
Timothy Leicht  
Nikae Lewis  
Sean Lewis



Camilla Logwood  
Yakee Lomax  
Korey Loudermilk  
Diva Lowe  
Anthony Luipold  
Deonte Mabon  
Kimberly Macklin  
Adonis Madry



Hector Magallanes  
Theofilos Makarounas  
Ryan Malone  
Jasmine Marsh  
Dominique Marshall  
D'andre Marteen  
Demetri Martin  
Sarah Martin



Antonia Martinez  
Francis Martosovic  
Kevin Mask  
Sarah Mason  
Jasmine Massengill  
Konstantinos Matzaris  
Phillip Mayweathers





Bryce McCurdy  
Blair McDaniel  
Brandon McDonald  
Megan McGill  
Kieran McKibbin  
Kaysa McKibbin  
Matthew McLindon  
Ronald McMillan



Michael McNeil  
Amber Medwetz  
Rachel Mender  
Ashley Mercado  
Sara Mercado  
Latoi Merrifweather  
Brittany Mickey  
Diona Milenkovski



Lakshmi Mitta  
Miroslav Miljus  
Patricia Millard  
Armando Miller  
Luke Miller  
Anthony Miranda  
Tracee Mitchell  
Cameron Mitchell



Jaquel Mitchell  
Lindsey Mitchell  
No'Shell Mitchell  
Naithan Mizanin  
Nicolas Mojica  
Auriana Moore  
Leslie Morgan  
Ryan Morgan



Demetrius Morris  
Lun-Yee Morris  
Nashawndal Morris  
Devante Mosby  
Devon Mosley  
Suhail Mufareh  
Kyle Munchenburg  
Juaquin Muro



Samantha Murphy  
Anthony Naples  
Nekoh Newman  
Stacy Neyhart  
Victor Nzeata  
Kalia O'Reilly  
Dana Olinger  
Kirstyn Oliver



Louis Oliver IV  
Carlos Ortega  
Jasmine Ortiz  
Javier Ortiz  
Chelsa Oyuvrides  
Parry Papamihalakis  
Kyle Papp  
Elliott Parker



Veronique Parker  
Peter Paskash  
Ajay Patel  
Kayla Patterson  
Shamere Patterson  
Mal'Anais Patton  
Christian Pena  
Jacqueline Pena



Andrew Perez  
Michael Perkins  
Tiffany Peters  
Rachel Phelps  
Kevin Phillips  
Brenda Pidgeon  
Courtney Pitts







James Pollard  
Xavier Ponce  
James Posey  
Lisa Pomaliak  
Naumce Prentoski  
Fredrick Price Jr.  
Alexis Prothro  
Anastasia Prothro

Ryan Puente  
Nadia Randolph  
LaToya Reavess-Weaver  
Jarrett Reynolds  
Adanneka Richardson  
Scottie Richardson  
Natalie Richers  
Denzell Riley

Jellicia Rivera  
Juan Rivera  
Melina Rivera  
Robyn Robb  
Gabrielle Roberts  
Christopher Robinson  
Devonte Robinson  
Dominique Robinson

Erica Robinson  
Jaylah Robinson  
Francisco Robledo  
Ciara Roddy  
Kassia Rodgers  
Monique Rojas  
Rebecca Romero  
Sarah Romero

Arrell Ross-Williams  
Richard Salinas  
Tyree Saleec-Inday  
Jonathan Sammons  
Nickolas Sanchez  
Tony Sanders  
Gregory Sanders II  
Matthew Santana Jr.

Michael Scorgiel  
Collin Schafer  
Sean Schafer  
Kevin Schroeder  
Amber Scollon  
Jasmine Scott  
Lawrence Scroggins  
Rubie Seals

Joseph Sepulveda  
Kashis Shannon  
Brianna Sheppard  
Alyssa Shirk  
Precious Shoulder  
Jason Simpson  
Sharnan Sims  
Darneshia Smith

Faith Smith  
Powell Smith  
Shawn Smith  
Talia Smith  
Tuesday Smith  
Sabrina Smith-Griggs  
John Sobczak  
Karla Solis

Ramona Somy  
Robert Sosa  
Tressura Sowell  
Rico Spikes  
Brandon Stacks  
Raquelita Starks  
Kiara Stephens-Brown



Kaitlynn Sterkowitz  
Darius Stevens  
Zachary Stevens  
Andrus Stevenson  
Deonta Stewart  
James Stewart  
Priscilla Stewart  
Kymisha Stokes



Kenneth Stone  
Nicholas Stovall  
Brittanie Sturdivant  
Megan Sturgeon  
Zachary Sturm  
Sylvia Suggs  
Tashana Sullivan  
Shanique Sweet



Zachary Swierc  
Kenneth Talley  
Calvin Tansil  
Leslie Tapia  
Nicole Taralis  
Sanchez Tate, Jr.  
Alexandria Taylor  
Christopher Taylor



Dawnesha Taylor  
Jasmine Taylor  
Terrell Taylor  
Adolph Taylor Jr.  
Cwon Terrell  
Lesley Tharpe  
Bishante Thomas  
Brittanie Thomas



Jamal Thomas  
Montrell Thomas  
Jessica Tice  
Janice Todd  
Jacob Tolaczky  
Dylan Torrefi  
Alaina Torres  
Danny Torres



Nicholas Townes  
Kathleen Towry  
Frank Traina  
Steven Trajkowski  
James Travis  
Jovan Trenoski  
Samuel Troutman  
Crystal Valant



Frankie Valdivia  
Angelica Vana  
Nicole Varela  
Natalie Vartanoff  
JoQuawn Velez  
Lequenda Verner  
Nicholas Vibinco  
Jasmine Wade



Brianna Walker  
Curdell Walker  
Donald Walker  
Amber Walls  
Perry Ward  
Frederick Ward, Jr.  
Dewayne Ware  
Julian Washington



Anthony Watson Jr.  
Brandon Watts  
Zachery Wells  
Jeremy Wengel  
Joseph White  
Miranda White  
Marley Whittaker





Joseph Wiekierak  
Kelly Wiggins II  
Andre Wilkerson  
Jaden Wilkerson  
Jacob Williams  
Kayla Williams  
Tanae Williams  
Cameron Williamson

Whitney Williamson  
Andrew Wilson  
Christopher Wilson  
Paige Wilson  
Shannon Wood  
Christian Woodberry  
David Wright III  
Logan Wright-Reich

Rodney Yarbro III  
Iyuan Yarbrough  
Theresa Yugo  
Elizabeth Zawada  
Chester Ziemniak

# camera shy students

## juniors

DeAnna Abel  
Joshua Addison  
Ramiro Aguilar II  
Michael Anderson  
Martin Arriaga  
Jonathan Bandy  
Jasmine Barfield  
Janita Beavers  
Avian Bell  
Amanda Belak  
Joseph Bond  
Meco Bradley  
Ashley Briede  
Anderson Broaden III  
Deandre Brown  
Micah Brown  
Patsy Bryant  
Ayyana Buchanan  
Mark Buckman  
Lance Burns  
Crystal Calhoun  
Krista Canali  
Kristina Carter  
Christopher Charles-  
ton  
Trevelle Clark  
Jacques Colman  
Andrew Craig  
Reinaldo Cruz  
Brittany Davis  
Chad Denny  
Ivan Dimitrovi  
Steven Edmond  
Darnell Edwards  
Frederick Elston  
Briana Evans  
Shanellah Gilliam  
Zachary Graham  
Eric Gray  
Justin Hadzich  
Maret Hall  
Marcel Hardin

Jasmine Harris  
Tevan Hartfield  
Fabian Herrera  
Asia Hibbler  
Ashley Hill  
Chance Hughes II  
Angel Hyche  
Ryan Jenkins  
Peter Jideonwo  
Kym Johnson  
Wanisha Joseph  
Paige Kaluf  
Dominique Key  
Janee Kline  
John Kopf  
Elizabeth Lamb  
Dennis Lawson  
Ayyana Leschinsky  
Michael Liggins  
Xochitl Logan  
Breonna Major  
Cameron Mars  
Johnny McClendon III  
Frederick Millidge  
Briana Miller  
Brittani Mitchell  
Bry Anna Mitchell  
Anthony Moore Jr.  
Mari Moore  
Shaquan Moore  
Marvala Morgan  
Patrick Morgan  
Derrita Morris  
Raphael Norvell  
Taneisha Oliver  
Stacy Ozuna  
Kimberly Parish  
Raj Patel  
Alisha Patterson  
Aaron Pascoe Jr.  
Boge Pejowski  
Kevin Perz

Xavier Pippins  
Misty Pratt  
Amber Pruett  
Bony Reed  
Johanna von Reed  
Michael Rivera  
Devonte Robinson  
Jasja Robinson  
Erick Rollins-Williams  
Jaime Rouse  
Tristin Russell  
Tyree Sallee-Lindsay  
Troy Sams  
Shane Schauer  
Hassan Schwartz  
Terry Simpson  
Alexis Smith  
Eric Smith Jr.  
Michael Smith  
Equilla Starns  
Matthew Steele  
RaeAnika Stewart  
Joseph Strydom  
Anthony Sutton  
Ra' Shawn Swain  
Marquis Syas  
T'Neshaa Teamer  
Casselle Thomas  
Distree Trevino  
Brandi Veltri  
John Vine  
Brandon Wallace  
Dennis Ward  
Ashley Williams  
Lawrence Williams  
Timothy Williams  
Terrell Wilson  
Brienne Witherspoon  
Casey Woodard  
Ryan Woods  
Chauncy Wray  
Kassandra Yockey  
Catherine Zurawicz

Jonathan Abel  
Sierra Alexander  
Luis Alvarez  
Amendo Armand  
Joshua Babbitt  
Jeremy Bassett  
Le Zairrick Bates  
Briana Bedford  
Roy Bink  
E'Quan Britton  
Chambria Brown  
Paris Brown  
Morris Burdette Jr.  
Jessica Burton  
Cierra Calloway  
Shaquille Cauty  
Javac Clayton  
Maria Correa  
Michael Cotto  
Brittany Cox  
Meghan Davis  
Tenisha Duncan  
Anadya Edmond  
Anthony Elmore  
Schinova Elston Jr.  
Cheyenne Ewing  
Devonte Farris  
Adam Fayson  
Isis Franklin  
Ramon Garcia  
Bruce Gonzalez  
Darien Gorrick  
Timothy Grayson  
Dominique Harris  
JaShawn Harris  
Richard Henrikson  
Joshua Holdren  
Tyler Houser  
Alisha Jenkins  
Marell Johnson  
Glenn Jones Jr.  
Lamont Jones  
Melanie Jones  
Mathew Kaiser  
Isahiah Lee  
Aaron Levens  
Ashley Lewis  
Kody Lively  
Bradley Martinez

Katie McCumber  
Michael McGarrity  
DeShayla McKinney  
Ashlee Mickisack  
Jonathan McPeck Jr.  
Olakemi Meadows  
Randall Mewes  
Christine Milley  
William Minard  
Janet Mordazovic  
Gabriel Montemayor  
Eric Muhammad  
Malik Muhammad  
Robert Nagy  
Lea Neilgan  
Jeffery Powell  
Juan Preciado  
Reymundo Reyes  
Melissa Rivera  
Rachel Robertson  
Adrian Robinson  
Anthony Rodriguez  
Jacob Roth  
Henry Sanchez  
Leonid Satey  
Sean Schmitt  
Donald Shields III  
Baysaun Simpson  
Mauree Smith  
Jeremiah Stegall  
Shakeelah Strong  
Arrel Terry  
Jeremy Terry  
Diamond Toms  
Justine Upchurch  
Joshua Upshaw  
Taylor Vogwill  
Hannah Webster  
Aaron Williams  
Anthony Williams  
Jacquel Williams  
Valencia Williams  
Jada Wilson  
Nicholas Wlodarski  
Timothy Wolfe Conwell  
Damen Johnson Jr.  
Agullia Young  
Dayna Young

Dominic Alderson  
Shykia Anderson  
Domingue Bailey  
Aaron Barnes  
Kalia Barnes  
Jacqueline Basaldua  
Swansi Bates  
Elias Benitez  
Montae Blair  
Xavier Bonds  
Patrick Borden  
Bruce Brown Jr.  
Mornica Bundesman  
Ayana Butler  
Iyana Butler  
Daria Caffrey  
Jennifer Calhoun  
Javon Clark  
Jeremy Collins  
Anthony Cooper  
John Dutes  
Charity Davis  
Derrick Davis  
Adore Dean  
Vanessa DeReal  
Javac Diaz  
Melvin Dickinson Jr.  
Giovanna Doss  
Norman Eskow  
Paradise Felker  
Britney Forester  
Dylan Galeozis  
Jordan Gates  
Jeffery Gough  
Harsh Goyal  
Diamond Gunn  
Corey Gutierrez  
Nate Hardin  
Sean Harris  
Kessidi Harris-Kendrick  
Jarielle Hemphill  
Babe Henderson  
Tynikaena Hopkins  
Cody Hucko  
Alexandria Hunt  
Damen Johnson Jr.  
Jeremiah King  
Jayeish Lalla

Shantell Lyons  
Terran Magee  
Christopher Marmon  
Stephanie Marshall  
Lenard Matthews II  
Jasmine McCoy  
Tony Miller  
Jasmine Moore  
David Morgan Jr.  
Michael Nagy  
Felicia Nelson  
Stephen Nixon  
Jamie Oliver  
Tori Parkhurst  
Robert Parson  
Seneca Patrick  
Chalezie Perkins  
Alyssa Renee  
Curtisha Peters  
Jordan Polk  
Jacquels Powell  
Quintia Pratt  
Destiny Pastinski  
Essence Reed  
Dominic Rodriguez  
Kindall Rollins  
Frank Ruiz  
Rodolfo Sanchez IV  
Nicholas Sheffield  
Sylvester Smith III  
Jasmine Smith  
Roger Smith Jr.  
Jordan Sneed  
Shamece Stingley  
Channon Thomas II  
Michael Thurman  
Jesena Torres  
Griselda Vengas  
Amber Wagner  
Cydney Wallace  
Brittany Watkins-Thigpen  
Carol Williams  
Devanta Wilson  
Kourtney Woods  
Tatiana Woulard  
Michael Wright  
Taliaha Wright  
David Zimmerman





# faculty & staff.



Cheryl Allen  
Guidance



Julie Albhouse  
Special Education



Janet Anderson  
Art



Joseph Atria  
Science



Cheryl Austin  
Student Teacher



Michelle Barker  
Science



Amber Baron  
Social Studies



Rachel Bateman  
English



Amy Beckham  
Athletic Director



Carrie Bedwell  
English



PIRATES  
Robert Bedwell  
Social Studies



Mary Bertram  
World Languages



Brad Best  
Security Director



Radmila Bicanin  
Special Education



Jeremy Bilka  
Math



Wade Boise  
Math



Janelle Bowen  
Media Services



Brandon Bowe  
Custodian



Daryl Boyle  
Security



Sarah Boyle  
Social Studies



John Bradford  
Orchestra



John Branda  
Math



Shariyne Buchanan  
Freshman Academy



Susan Buse  
Special Education



Mark Cieselski  
PNN



Kim Coman  
Special Education



Lorraine Covetti  
Assistant Principal



Renee Cox  
Cafeteria



Molly Crown  
Physical Education



Dawn Cumba  
ENL



Benjamin Daniel  
Physical Education



Mark Danielson  
Band



David DeMuth  
Assistant Principal



Grace Dewald  
Guidance



Christine Dixon  
Business



Barb Dlouhy  
Special Education



Kim Drapac  
Special Education



Nancy Draper  
Math



Miles Dunscombe  
Science



Susie Duzan  
Business



Jeffrey Eaton  
Math



Patricia Eckert  
Custodian



Ed Eliscupides  
Custodian



Jeffrey Fairbairn  
Physical Education



Mark Fairbairn  
Custodian



Robert Fernando  
Custodian



Brigitte Floyd  
Nurse



Melissa Flutka  
Science



Julie Freglen  
Math



Susan Gaines  
Teacher's Aide



Dragica Gajic  
Custodian



Juana Garza  
Cafeteria



Charles Gleason  
Special Education



Amy Covert  
Physical Education



Linda Hall  
Student Services



Teresa Harness  
Cafeteria





Christina Haverty  
Custodian



Susan Hayes  
Physical Education



Kira Healy  
Math



Donald Hickman  
Custodian



Dave Hinkel  
Freshman Academy



Anthony Hofer  
Social Studies



Michael Hoffman  
Math



Jason Hostetter  
Freshman Academy



Frank Hudak  
Custodian



Sean Hudson  
Physical Education



Richard Hursey  
Industrial Tech.



Sara Hursey  
English



Joseph Hussey  
Math



William Idzior  
Math



Elad Isreal  
Special Education



Denise Jonerson  
Special Education



Nicki James  
Drama



Timothy James  
Assistant Principal



Jennifer Jenkins  
Security



Darcie Johnston  
Special Education



James Johnston  
Industrial Tech.



Kathy Jones  
Special Education



Betty Jordan  
Guidance



Nicki Jusk  
Athletics



William Kelly  
Substitute



Nicole Kendrick  
Security



Sarah Kennedy  
Art



Elizabeth Kenyon  
Media Center



Christine Kibler  
Wheeler, English



Anthony Klimczak  
English



Debra Klippel  
Main Office



Andjelija Knezevic  
Custodian



Michael Knoche  
Social Studies



Nada Kolar  
Custodian



Diane Kowalski  
Orchestra



Rosellen Kozel  
Special Education



Sarah Krowka  
Special Education



Michael Krutz  
Principal



Pam Lach  
ENL



Danny Lackey  
Diversity Coord.



Jennifer Leek  
Math



Connie Lewis  
English



Elma Lockett  
Cafeteria



Luis Lopez  
Science



Rae Lopez  
Business



Tricia Lukawski  
Physical Education



Bob Mackovyak  
Technical Ed.



Kristin Maglish  
Fitness Center



Lori Magnuson  
Guidance



David Maldonado  
World Languages



Veronica Maldonado  
Guidance



Diane Mandon  
Social Studies



Dawnell Martin  
Teacher Aide



Rachelle Massacavollo  
Math



Mark McCullom  
Science



Mary McVade  
Technology





Sean Meagher  
Math



Lee Meyer  
English



Nisa Milosavljevich  
Custodian



Vesna Mitic  
Custodian



Joe Monahan  
English



Debbie Monix  
English



Helen Moravskij  
Custodian



Sally Morgan  
Science



LaFonda Morris  
Assistant Principal



Dan Moslander  
Social Studies



Erin Mulloy-Flores  
English



Mary Neylon  
Media Services



Gail Nicolini  
Math



Bonnie Niksch  
Media Services



Andrew Niksch  
Business



Deborah Onika-  
Brazys Science



Kim Ortega  
ENL



Martha Ortiz  
Teacher Aide



Esmeralda Palmerin  
-Zamora, W. Lang.



Rick Parker  
Special Education



Stacy Parkhurst  
Cafeteria



William Parnell  
Custodian



Brian Pest  
English



Vicki Paulnitz  
Guidance



Lenka Pejosi  
Custodian



Nicholas Petralia  
Social Studies



Maryetta Petras  
Science



Donna Phelps  
Media Center



Deanne Pierce  
Math



Marsha Pierson  
Main Office



Karen Porter  
Cafeteria



Laurie Powers  
Substitute



Steven Praether  
Industrial Tech.



Terry Pratt  
Art



Carolina Procter  
World Languages



Teresa Procter  
English / Journalism



Rose Pulliam  
Security



Janis Qualizza  
Athletic Director



Guy Ramey  
JROTC



Shelley Ray  
FACS



Kari Regan  
Freshman Academy



Mark Reid  
Freshman Academy



Melinda Reinhart  
Choir



Mary Rhone  
Custodian



Chris Richardson  
Social Studies



Connie Richie  
Guidance



Chuck Riggie  
Special Education



Pamela Roberts  
Teacher's Aide



Mark Robinson  
Custodian



Kathleen Rock  
Math



Kay Ross  
Special Education



Sharon Row  
Business



Marie Samuel  
Cafeteria



Mark Schellinger  
Social Studies



Violet Schmuck  
Math



Sandra Scholten  
Teacher's Aide





Daniel Schoon  
Social Studies



Pamela Schuetz  
English



Melanie Scott  
Main Office



Andrea Seeman  
English



Charles Seigman  
Math



James Simon  
Special Education



Jennifer Simon  
Science



Alison Skertic  
English



Patricia Smith  
Media Center



Patricia Smith  
Family & Cons. Sci.



Rose Smith  
Substitute



Jason Sonnenberg  
English



Irene Spiro  
World Languages



Debra Stafford  
Math



Jacob Stafford  
Social Studies



Margaret Stallings  
Family & Cons. Sci.



Sara Stallings  
Family & Cons. Sci.



James Stamper  
Social Studies



Charles Stanford  
Custodian



Jean Stanford  
English



Luke Starkey  
Social Studies



Zoran Stefanovic  
Custodian



Evelyn Steiner  
World Languages



Al Stoner  
World Languages



Paxton Suggs  
Student Teacher



Michelle Sulich  
Guidance



Kim Sunovnik  
Special Education



Melissa Szczerba  
Special Education



David Teeter  
Technical Ed.



Marilyn Thien  
Student Services



Ronald Thomas  
Security



Derek Thompson  
Special Education



Cheryl Ursey  
Student Services



Joy Varela  
Custodian



Judy Vassallo  
Guidance



Melissa Volkanan  
English



Carol Von Behren  
Family & Cons. Sci.



Darrell Washington  
Security



Patrice Weil  
English



William West Sr.  
Study Hall



Doretha Wheeler  
Special Education



Sue Whitlock  
Special Education



Jernece Williamson  
Freshman Academy



Sally Williamson  
Science



Debra Willson  
Main Office



Michelle Wilson  
Guidance



Katie Wiser  
Krisak Guidance



Daniel Wrasman  
JROTC



Jeffrey Yelton  
Science



Brian Zdych  
Physical Education



Joan Zerbe  
Treasurer









## get remembrance.

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Sheer excitement—the feeling that fills seniors with pride when they walk across the stage at commencement. Nervous—what seniors feel knowing that the future is their next destination. Tears—the liquid that cascades from seniors' eyes when saying goodbye to their friends of the last four years. Smiles—what creeps across seniors' faces as they walk down the red carpet, dressed up, looking like their own piece of Hollywood. Joy—what seniors feel when driving around the school with their friends after the Senior Breakfast. Memories—what all seniors take with them after high school. "Memory is a way of holding onto the things you love, the things you are, the things you never want to lose." —"The Wonder Years" television show



Joseph  
Anant-Pisicchio



Brannon Rence Nelson



Elisha Alvord  
Choral Teens 11, Fall Play  
10-11, Show Choir 11,  
Spring Play 11, Varsity  
Choir 9, Velveteens 10,  
ISSMA



Kassy Albee  
National Honor Society  
11-12, Orchestra-Viola  
9, Tennis 9-12, Tennis  
Captain 12, Tennis  
Leadership Award 11



Jessica Alvord  
Cross Country 11,  
Basketball Homecoming  
Princess 9, Key Club  
10-12, Newspaper 11-12,  
Newspaper Sports Editor  
12, STAND 11-12, Track  
10-12, Volleyball 9-10



James Pierre  
Allen III



Jacob Alvarez  
Auto Shop 11, Baseball 9,  
12, Building Trades 12



Juanel Alvarez



Kristen Alvarez  
Choral Teens 11, Drama  
Club 9, Revue 11, Show  
Choir 12, STAND 9,  
Varsity Choir 9, Velveteens  
10, Vocal Teens 12



Michelle Ambrose  
Band-Concert, Pep,  
Marching 9-12, Drama  
Club 9-12, Drama Club  
Officer 12, Drum line 9-12,  
Fall Play 9,11,12, Kids on  
the Block 12, Spring Play  
9-12, Thespians 9-12



Andre' Anderson



Brian Anderson  
German Club 10-11,  
Russian Club 10-11



Christopher  
Andruski



Lytina Niade  
Andruski



Nick Antoski  
CAD 10-12, Teacher Aide  
12



Tina Kanadu  
Asobere  
French Club 11, PNIN  
12, Student Government  
12, Teacher Aide 12,  
Volleyball 9-10



Lovetta Barbara  
Asobere  
Band 9-10, STAND 9,10,12



Gerald Badley  
Science Olympiad 9-10,  
Track 9-11



Markell Badolun  
Cross Country 12, National  
Honor Society 11-12, Track  
9,11,12



Kathryn Banushak  
Class Government 12,  
Key Club 9-12, Key Club  
Officer 10-12, Softball  
10, Student Government  
12, Student Government  
Officer 12, Softball Student  
Manager 9,12



Briana Bandy  
STAND 9, Voices of  
Reason 11



Courtney Bangfeldt  
CAD 10, Choral Teens 11-12, SOGA  
10-12, Drama Club 9-12, Drama  
Club Officer 11, Fall Play 9-12,  
French Club 10-12, French Club  
Officer 12, IU Honors Program 11,  
NHS 11-12, Revue 10-12, Spring  
Play 9-12, STAND 9-12, STAND  
Officer 11-12, Teacher Aide 12,  
Thespians 9-12, Thespians Officer  
11, Varsity Choir 9, Velveteens 10



Sarah Bannock  
Yearbook 12



Ashley Barnes  
Peer Helper 11





Kiana Barnes



Tiana June Barnes



Kelsey Bannick  
Swimming 9-12, Swimming  
Captain 12, Teacher Aide 11-12,  
Tennis 9-12, Tennis Captain  
12, Volleyball 9-12, Volleyball  
Captain 12, Yearbook 12, Tennis  
MVP 11, Tri-Athlete Award 10-  
12, Weightlifting Competition  
12, Volleyball Leadership  
Award 12, MPAC 11-12



Tina Baxles  
Dance Team 12, Yearbook  
11



Mariah K.  
Battiste  
Dance Team 9, Orchestra  
10, Football Trainer 12,  
Basketball Trainer 12,  
Tennis 12



Marcus Battle  
STAND 12, Yearbook 10-12



Cassidy Brantley  
Drill Team 12, Fall Play  
12, HERO 12, Key Club  
12, Newspaper 12,  
Planetarium 12, Prom  
Committee 12, STAND 12,  
Tennis 12



Denise Beatty



Chris Beezheld  
Football 9-12



Justin Bernard



Brian Bidok



Ryan Bishop  
Concert Choir 9-12, Key  
Club 9



Brannon Shawnee  
Blant



Ashlyn Reporsha  
Blumett



Danielle Bly  
Gymnastics 9-12,  
Gymnastics Captain 12,  
NHS 11-12, PNN 11-12,  
Lip Sync 9, Senior Video  
Editor 12, Soccer 9-12,  
Teacher Aide 12, Track  
9-12, Gymnastic MVP  
10-11, Gymnastics Most  
Improved 9, Tri-Athlete  
11-12



Cara Brantley  
SOSA 10-12, Drama Club  
12, NHS 12, Orchestra 9-12



Kendall Brock  
Cheerleading 9-12,  
Cheerleading Captain 12,  
Choral Teams 11, Drama Club  
11-12, Teacher Aide 10-12,  
Varsity Choir 9, Velveens 10,  
Vocal Teams 12, Cheerleading  
Leadership Award 11,  
Cheerleading MVP 12, Winter  
Formal Court 10, Fall Musical  
11-12



Theophilus  
Christopher Boone



La'Shea Brown  
Marching Band 9, Track 9



Chris Bradley  
Football 9, Track 9-12,  
Track Captain 12



Harmon  
Brantema



Mica Brantley  
National Honor Society  
11-12, PNN 12, Volleyball  
9-12, Volleyball Captain 12



Nina Brown  
Decathlon Team 12, Drama  
Club 11, Guidance Aide 11,  
PNN 9-12, Senior Video  
Editor 11-12, Spring Play  
11, Track Student Manager  
9, Tennis 11, Thespians 11,  
Voices of Reason 11



Desiray Shondra  
Brown





Made Anwar  
Brann  
Tennis 9



Marion Burdette



Alaysia Burns  
Key Club 12, Track 9-10



Ayesha M.  
Campbell



Mark E.  
Campbell II  
Band 9-10, SOSA 9-12,  
Creative Writing Club Officer  
11-12, Econ Challenge 11-12,  
Jazz Impressions 9-10, Peer  
Mediator 9-12, Soccer 9-11,  
Teens for Christ 10, Track 9-12



Antonio Corbajal  
Teacher Aide 12, Soccer  
9-12, Soccer Captain 11,  
Track 9, Soccer Leadership  
Award 11, ROTC 10-11



Denise Lilliana  
Corbajal  
Cross Country 9-10, Cross  
Country Captain 10, Football  
Homecoming Court 12,  
Hoosier Girls State 11-12,  
NHS 9, Soccer 9, 11, 12, Soccer  
Captain 9-12, Track 9-12, Cross  
Country MVP 9-10, Track Most  
Improved 11, Cross Country  
110 Percent Award 9



Stephen Cornello  
Golf 9-12, Golf Captain 11-  
12, Orchestra 9-11, PNN  
10-12, Tennis 9-12, Tennis  
Captain 11-12



Ashley Carrero  
Cheerleading 9-10



Jasmine R.  
Corveyton



Sakura Coswell  
Newspaper 12, Yearbook  
12



Nicole G. Coombs



Jordan Avery  
Myles Chandler



Justin Chandler  
Autoshop 11-12, CAD 10,  
Wrestling 9-11



Ashley Cherry  
STAND 12, Teacher  
Aide 12, Tennis 9-12,  
Tennis Leadership Award,  
Voices of Reason 11



Kristan Churchill



Branna M. Clark  
Cheerleading 10; Class  
president 12; Dance Team  
11-12; Academic Decathlon  
9; Newspaper 12; Aide  
12; Prom committee 12;  
Student government 11-  
12; Track 9-12; Lip Sync  
12; Revue 12



Michael Clark  
CAD 9, 10, 12, Football 9,  
Key Club 10, Planetarium  
9-11, PNN 11, Track 10, 12



Ryan Clark  
Autoshop 12, Teacher  
Aide 12



Teedrick A. Clark



Ashton Cole



Charmice Cole  
French Club 10,  
Newspaper 10-12,  
Newspaper Photo Editor  
11-12, Peer Helper 12,  
STAND 10, Teacher Aide  
12, Track 10, Lip Sync  
Contest 12



Tangelia Coleman



Branna M.  
Collins  
CAD 12, Cross Country 11,  
Drama Club, Peer Helper  
12, PNN 10-12, STAND  
9, 12, Track 11, Voices of  
Reason 10







Henry Collins



Kristyann Comer  
STAND 9-11



Brian Cooper



Kelly Denise  
Cooper  
Choral Teens 9-12, Fall  
Play 9-10, Revue 10-12,  
Spring Play 11-12, SADD  
Officer 12, Teens for Christ  
10, Voices of Reason 11



Terrance Cooper  
Football 11, Track 10,12,  
Weightlifting Competition  
12



Anthony Corvales  
CAD 12, STAND 12,  
Student Government 12,  
Swimming 11-12



William J.  
Costakes Jr.  
Autoshop 11-12, Wrestling  
9-12, Wrestling Captain 12



Jonathan Cawley  
Swimming 10-12, Teacher  
Aide 12, Track 10, JROTC



David Cox  
Baseball 9-12, Baseball  
Captain 12, Football 9-12,  
PNN 10,12, Weightlifting  
Competition 9-12



Christopher  
Crawford  
SOSA 10-12, FEA 10-12, FEA  
Officer 11-12, IU Honors  
Program NIS 11-12,  
National Spanish Test 12,  
Newspaper 10-12, Quill  
and Scroll 11-12, Sports  
Club 10,12, Spell Bowl  
Team 11, Student Advisory  
Committee 11-12, Student  
Government 12



Jennifer Cranley  
Basketball 9-10, Guidance  
Aide 11-12, Teacher Aide  
11-12, Softball 9-12, Softball  
Captain 12, Volleyball 9-10,  
Softball Sportsmanship  
Award 11



Evonette Crosswell



Michael Crist  
Autoshop 11, Building  
Trades 12, CAD 10-11



Ron Crutch-Cresene  
Track 9-12, Track  
Captain 12, Football 9-12



V'Lemina Curry  
PNN 10, Soccer 11-12,  
Soccer JV Captain 12,  
STAND 10-12



Aaron Curtis  
Bowling Team 9-12,  
CAD 11, Choral Team  
9-12, Concert Choir 9,  
Decathlon Team 9, Fall  
Play 9-12, FCCLA Officer  
10-12, French Club 11,  
IU Honors Program 11,  
Show Choir 9-12, STAND  
12, Varsity Choir 9, Vocal  
Teens 11-12



Jonathan Dolt



Shonell Davidson



Eric Davis



Leran Joseph  
Davis



Travon Davis  
Concert Choro, 9, 10;  
Drama 11; Aide 11; Revue  
9; Yearbook 12; AFJROTC  
10, 11, 12; Lip Sync 10



Tyler Davis  
Future Educator of  
America 11, Newspaper  
12, Teacher Aide 10-12,  
Student Service Aide 10,  
Track Student Manager 11,  
Football Student Manager  
12, Yearbook 12



Rasheedon May



Chantel McJannet





Nate Demetrios  
Building Trades 10-11,  
Planetarium 9-12



John Dickerson  
National Honor Society  
11-12, Teacher Aide 11-12,  
Varsity Choir 9, Hand Bell  
Choir 10-11



Jade Dixon  
Basketball 9-12, Cross  
Country 9, Teacher Aide  
12



Keith Dackery  
Basketball 9-10, Football  
9-12, Track 10-12, Mr.  
Football 12



Monica Doughty  
Swimming 12



Corey Dorsey  
Academic Super Bowl  
12, Art Club 12, Bowling  
Team 12, Cross Country  
10, Football 9, Track 9-12,  
Weightlifting Competition  
11



Ciera D. Doss



Paula Wright



Felicia Welley  
Cross Country 12, Key  
Club 12, Teacher Aide  
9-10, Track 12



Bianca Earl  
Choral Teens 11, Spring  
Play 11, Varsity Choir 9,  
Velveteens 10, 12



Benjamin El-Guesay  
National Honor Society 12,  
Peer Helper 12, Soccer 10,  
Track 9-10, Scholar Athlete  
Award



Keshia Eller  
STAND 12, Tennis 10-12,  
Voices or Reason 11-12



Winton Jarrett  
Elks  
Basketball 9, Track 9



Paloma Escobedo  
National Honor Society 12,  
Teacher Aide 12



Lauren Evans  
Peer Helper 12, PNN  
11, Teacher Aide 11-12,  
Yearbook 11



Naytasha Nanne  
Evans



Mike Ewing  
Autoshop 11-12, CAD 10,  
Drama Club 9



Keesha Ferguson  
Decathlon Team 12,  
STAND 11-12, Track 9-12,  
Track Captain 12



Aaron Fitto  
Debate 9, Football 9-12



Keanna Fitzpatrick  
French Club 12, STAND  
10-11, Track 10



Kristin Fleming  
Diving 11, Key Club 10-11,  
Guidance Aide 9-11,  
Soccer 10, Swimming 9



Joel Hess  
AFJROTC 10-12, German  
Club 9-10



Robert Flores



Leah Movie





*Elliot Foley*  
Drama Club 10-12, Drama  
Club Officer 12, Fall Play  
10-12, Kid on the Block  
10, Science Olympiad  
10, Spring Play 10-12,  
Thespians 10-12, Thespians  
Officer 12, Best Supporting  
Actor 11



*Kristi Fang*



*Mercedes Lopez*  
*Forcell*  
Cheerleading 9, French  
Club 11-12, Basketball  
Homecoming Court  
9, Newspaper 10, Peer  
Mediator 9-12, PNN 10,  
Soccer 9-12, Soccer Captain  
12, STAND 11-12, Varsity  
Baseball Student Manager  
9, Teacher Aide 10-12



*David Freeman*  
Band 10, Football 9, Track  
12



*Cecil A. Frank Jr.*  
Band 9-11, Drum Major  
12, FCCLA 11, National  
Honor Society 11-12, Track  
9-12, Scholar Athlete 11



*Nick Furtio*  
Building Trades 11-12



*Laura Gonnello*  
Drill Team 11, AFJROTC  
10-12



*Christopher  
George Gombos*  
Basketball 9, Class  
Government 9-12, Football  
9, Teacher Aide 12



*Zachary Gibson*



*Breann Gless*  
National Honor Society  
9-10, Student Government  
12, Teacher Aide 10-12,  
Wrestling 10



*Meachell Domingue*  
*Godfrey*  
Voices of Reason 11-12



*Jacobo Guzman*



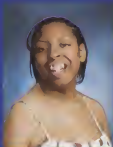
*Andrew Goralowski*  
Basketball 9-10, Soccer 9-  
12, Soccer Captain 12



*Robert Leon  
Gordon II*



*Kandace Greene*



*Kyrstal Greene*



*Deborah Griffin*



*Andrew Grzypowski*



*Melissa Edo  
Gutierrez*



*Kayla Haimy*  
Drama Club 9, Revue 11,  
Show Choir 10-11, Teacher  
Aide 12, Varsity Choir 9,  
Veiveteers 10-11, Hand  
bell Choir



*Kevin Haimy*



*Michael Jett  
Hordis*



*Megan Holmes*  
Creative Writing Club  
10-12, Creative Writing  
Club Officer 12, Drama  
Club 12, Fall Play 12,  
National French Test 10-  
12, Orchestra 10-12, Spring  
Play 12



*Tanner Harper*  
Basketball 9-10, National  
Honor Society 11-12, PNN  
11, Prom King 11, Soccer  
9-12, STAND 11-12, Track  
9-12, Track Captain 12





Ramell Harris



Stacie Harris  
Key Club 10, Prom  
Committee 12,  
STAND 10-12, Student  
Government 12, Teacher  
Aide 12, Yearbook 12,  
Yearbook Academic Editor  
12, Lip Sync 12



Arielle Harrison  
Key Club 11, STAND 12



Stephanie Hart  
Class Government 12, Dance  
Team 9-12, Dance Team  
Captain 11-12, Quiz Bowl  
Team 10-11, Spanish Club  
11, Student Government 12,  
Teacher Aide 12, Yearbook  
12, Yearbook Performing  
Arts Editor 12, Dance MVP  
11, 12



Stephen Hart



Monte Rousehouse  
Harvey



Hugo Hernandez  
Football 12



Nydia Nicole  
Hernandez



Jessica Hernandez  
Golf 11, Peer Helper 11-12,  
Student Government  
12, Wrestling Student  
Manager 10-12, Teacher  
Aide 11-12



Eric Herzog  
Soccer 9, 11, 12



Deante' Coyne  
Hickerson



Britney Hiltner  
Cheerleading 9, National  
Honor Society 9, PNN 11



Jasmine Hobbs



Jerry Arthur  
Holcomb Jr.



Damagene Holliday  
Drill Team 10, Gary Area  
Career Center 12, Peer  
Helper 11, STAND 12,  
Student Government 12,  
Teacher Aide 12



Kelley Hunter



Evelyn Ivack



Samuel Issa



Arden Ivory  
National Honor Society  
11-12, Varsity Choir 10



Sha'Roya Shonta  
Jackson



Edwinas Jackson  
Football 9, 10, 12, Track 11,  
Wrestling 9



Davison Johnson



Glen Avery Johnson  
II



J.D. Johnson III  
Basketball 12







*Kyle Johnson*  
Autophony 10-12, Concert  
Choir 9, STAND 9



*Loretta Johnson*  
Concert Choir 11, Dance  
Team 9-12, Drama Club  
12, Fall Play 12, Basketball  
Homecoming Princess  
9, Pressman 11-12, Quiz  
Bowl Team 10-12, Teacher  
Aide 10,12, Thespians 12,  
Varsity Choir 10



*Michael Johnson*



*Carl Edward  
Jones Jr.*



*Raymond Jones*  
Band 9-10, National Honor  
Society 11-12, Soccer 11-12



*Joann Jones*  
Dance Team 11-12, Dance  
Team Captain 11, Revue  
11, Student Government  
12, Teacher Aide 12



*Keen Jones*  
Football 9-12, Track  
9-12, Track Captain 12,  
Wrestling 9-12, Wrestling  
Captain 12



*Miriam Nicole  
Jones*



*Shance Jones*



*Jonathan Wendell  
Jordan*



*Reggie Jordan*  
Football 9-12, Teacher  
Aide 12, Wrestling 9,11,12,  
Wrestling Captain 12



*Tiara Jordan*  
Drama Club 10, Career Area  
Career Center 11, Key  
Club 12



*Aaron Kozzomarski*  
Baseball 9-10, Football  
9-12, Football Captain 12,  
Weightlifting Competition  
9-12, Weightlifting  
Competition Champion  
11-12



*Andrew Kullak*



*William Kelly*



*Heather Kid*  
Color Guard 12, Color  
Guard Captain 12, French  
Club 11,  
Orchestra 10-12



*Ashley King*



*Kristien Kohanowski*  
Concert Choir 10, FCCLA  
12, French Club 11-12,  
French Club Officer 12,  
Marine Biology 10-11,  
NHS 11-12, Swimming  
9-12, Varsity Choir 9,  
Swimming Sportsmanship  
Award 10



*Patrick Kober*  
German Club 10, National  
Honor Society 11-12,  
Orchestra 9-10



*James Kotides*  
German Club 10, National  
Honor Society 11-12,  
Aide 11-12



*Corilyn Kotul*  
Bowling Team 9-12, Choral  
Teams 11, Drama Club  
9-12, German Club 9-11,  
National Honor Society 11-12,  
Thespians 9-12, Varsity  
Choir 9, Vetsveteens 10,  
Vocal Teams 12



*Adam LaTurno*  
CAD 10, Football 9



*Anthony Lawender*  
Cheerleading 9, NHS  
11-12, Newspaper 10-11,  
Wrestling Manager 10,  
Swimming 11-12, Aide 12,  
Varsity Choir 9, Vetsveteens  
10, Volleyball 9, Yearbook  
12, Yearbook Editor 12,  
Football Trainers 12, Quill  
and Scroll 12



*Ronald Lawdram*





*Tiffany Leicht*  
Gymnastics 9-12,  
Gymnastics Captain  
12, PNN 11-12, Football  
Student Trainer 12, Track  
9-10



*Candace Jennifer  
Leja*



*Bernadette  
Thomas Lewis*



*Joshua Liddell*  
Football 9-12, Peer Helper  
9-10, Peer Mediator 9-10,  
Teens For Christ 9-12,  
Weightlifting Competition  
9-12, Weightlifting  
Competition Champion  
11-12, Wrestling 10



*Jasmine Lopez*  
Newspaper 11-12, Quill  
and Scroll 11-12, Student  
Government 12, Teacher  
Aide 12



*Anthony Lucero*  
Building Trades 11-12,  
Yearbook 12



*Kaitlin Lunsford*  
*Armed Forces*  
FCLLA 11-12, FCLLA  
Officer 12, Softball 10-  
12, Softball Captain 11,  
Student Government 12,  
Softball Student Manager  
9, Teacher Aide 12



*Kyle Lunsford*  
Environmental Club 11,  
Golf 9



*Marlana Yvette  
Moody*



*Alicia Magana*  
STAND 11-12, Student  
Government 12



*Kreshanna Major*  
Peer Helper 9, STAND 9,  
Teacher Aide 10, Track 12



*Ricky Maldonado*  
Basketball 9-10, Peer  
Helper 12, Soccer 9-11,  
SADD 12, Teacher Aide  
10-12, Yearbook 12



*James Mares*  
Basketball 9, Football 9-12,  
National Honor Society  
11-12, Peer Mediator 9-12,  
Track 10-12, Track Captain  
12



*Amber Lynne  
Monsella*



*Erin L. Morda*  
Bowling Team 9-12,  
Drama Club 9-12, Golf  
9-12, MPAC 12



*Jose Joane  
Montoya*



*Maria M. Morda*  
*Montoya*



*Joe Morales*  
Autoshop 11-12, CAD  
10-12, Drama Club 9, German  
Club 10-11, Russian Club  
10-11, Swimming 10



*Andre Matthews*  
Autoshop 11-12, Band 9



*Keshia Mathis*  
Band 9-10, Color Guard  
9, 10, 12, Color Guard  
Captain 12, FCLLA 12,  
Gary Area Career Center  
11, Revue 12, STAND 9-12,  
STAND Officer 12, Student  
Government 12, Voices of  
Reason 11-12



*Nolan Mimersky*  
German Club 10, Tennis  
9-12, Tennis Captain 12



*Matthew W. Mayo  
Jr.*



*Taylor McGill*  
STAND 12, Teens for Christ  
11-12, Tennis 11, Voices of  
Reason 11-12



*David McGee*  
Cross Country 12, Track 12





*Keshia McCre*  
Color Guard 12, Color  
Guard Captain 12, German  
Club 11-12, Russian Club  
11-12



*Rhonda McCre*  
Class Government 12,  
Dance Team 9-12, Dance  
Team Captain 12, Key  
Club 12, Revue 10-12,  
Student Government 12,  
Yearbook 12, Yearbook  
Academic Editor 12



*Brian Earl Murray*



*Robert McKee*



*Alyssa McKisley*  
STAND 12, Student  
Government 12, Track 12



*Brian McMillan*  
Autoshop 9-12, HERO 11-  
12, Teacher Aide 10-11



*Katelyn K. Meloy*



*Lindsay Mendes*  
Class Government 9-12,  
Drama Club 9, Football  
Homecoming Court 12,  
Hooster Girls State 11,  
NHHS 12, Teacher Aide 12,  
Student Government 12,  
Track 11, Yearbook 12,  
Lifestyles Yearbook Editor  
12, Quill and Scroll



*Brittany Mendosa*  
Key Club 9, National  
Honor Society 11-12,  
Peer Helper 10, STAND  
10, Teacher Aide 10-12,  
Wrestling Student  
Manager 9-12, Academic  
Achievement 9-12



*Ava May*  
SOSA 12, Cross Country  
10-12, Peer Helper 12,  
Peer Mediator 9-12,  
Spanish Club 10, Student  
Government 10-12,  
Teacher Aide 10-12, Teens  
for Christ 11, Track  
10-12, Cross Country  
Sportsmanship Award 11



*Sandy Mesa*



*Charles Mihal*  
Band 9-12, Cross Country  
11, German Club 10, Jazz  
Impact 9-12, National  
German Test 11, PNN 11,  
Spring Play 11, Track 10-12



*Tanisha Miles*  
Office Aide 12, Peer  
Helper 12, Student  
Government 11-12,  
Swimming 9, Teens for  
Christ 10, Track 10-11,  
Hand bells 11



*Naudia Mlward*  
Basketball 9-10, Concert  
Choir 9, Basketball  
Homecoming Court 9,  
Teacher Aide 11-12, Hand  
bells



*Jordan Miller*



*Nichelle Lynn  
Mlward*



*Mikandra Mlway*  
Teacher Aide 9-11



*Randel Moore*  
Choral Teens 11-12,  
Concert Choir 10, Drama  
Club 12, Fall Play 12,  
Revue 11-12, Show Choir  
11-12, Spring Play 11-12,  
Thespians 12, Vocal Teens  
11-12



*Tawna Moore*  
Peer Helper 10-11, Teacher  
Aide 10-11



*Timothy Moore*  
Track 11



*Tremaine Mlward*  
*Moore*



*Ashanti Morris*  
STAND 9, Student  
Government 10-12, Vocal  
Teens 9



*Kaira Moten*



*Moa Muhammad*  
Prom Committee 12,  
Student Government 12,  
Track 10-12, Track Captain  
12





*Makela Myers*  
Advanced Orchestra 9-12,  
Soccer 11, Teens for Christ  
9-11, Track 10



*Matthew Nothman*  
Band 9-12, Jazz Impact  
9-12, NHS 11-12, Peer  
Helper 10, Spring Play  
11-12



*Matthew Noose*



*Ashley Negretti*  
Marine Biology 11-12,  
Student Government  
11-12, Swimming 9-12,  
Teacher Aide 11-12



*Nick Nilsson*  
Autoshop 9-11, Drumline  
10-11, Fall Play 12, German  
Club 11, Peer Helper 10-11,  
PNN 12, Spring Play 12,  
Student Government 12,  
Swimming 9, Vocal Teens  
12, Wrestling 10, Voices of  
Reason 12



*Jay Nelson*  
Baseball 9, Football  
9-12, Teacher Aide 12,  
Weightlifting Competition  
11-12



*Takshor Nelson*  
Band 9-10, STAND 9,10,12



*Rebecca Norille*  
Choral Teens 10-12, Dance  
Team 9, Fall Play 12, PNN  
11-12, Revue 11, Show  
Choir 10-12, Spring Play  
10-12, Teens for Christ 9-11,  
Track 9-12, Varsity Choir  
9, Vocal Teens 10-12, Track  
& Field MVP Award 10-11,  
Voices of Reason Officer



*Naphtan Newman*  
Autoshop 11, Drama Club  
12, Fall Play 12



*Nina Nishner*



*Carly Niles*  
Chess Club 9-12, Football  
9-12, NHS 11-12, Orchestra  
9-12, Teacher Aide 12



*Jonathan Niswender*  
Basketball 9-12, Basketball  
Captain 12



*Kevin O'Neill*  
Football 9, Key Club 11,  
National Honor Society 11-  
12, Student Government  
11



*Jason Onelkewski*



*Michael Christian Olson*



*Nathaniel Ortega*  
NHS 11-12, Orchestra  
9-10, Peer Helper 11, Prom  
Court 11, Tennis 9-10



*David Ortiz*  
Orchestra 9-12



*Michael Owend*  
Building Trades 11-12



*Ed Packwood*  
Building Trades 11-12



*Amikella Papanikolaou*  
Choral Teens 10, Dance Team  
9-12, Dance Team Captain 12,  
Drama Club 9-12, Fall Play 9-  
10, PNN 11-12, Prom Court 11,  
Revue 9-11, Spring Play 11-12,  
Aide 11-12, Thespians 9-12,  
Varsity Choir 9, Vocal Teens  
11-12, Dance Most Improved  
9, Most Dedicated 10-11



*Nina Parker*  
Drama Club 9-12, Key Club  
9-10, Teacher Aide 11



*Tamra Lafe Parker*



*Brittany Brija Potterson*  
Teacher Aide 10-11



*Kearra Potterson*  
Dance Team 11, Key  
Club 9-10, Peer Helper  
9-12, Revue 9, STAND  
Student Government 9-11,  
Teacher Aide 9-11, Track  
9-10







*Sherie Paul*  
Peer Helper 11, Teens for  
Christ 10-11, Voices of  
Reason 11-12



*Keith Poulsh*  
Concert Choir 9, Football  
9-12, Teacher Aide  
12, Track 9-12, Track  
Captain 12, Weightlifting  
Competition 9-12,  
Weightlifting Competition  
Champion 10-12, Yearbook  
12, Yearbook Sports  
Section Editor 12



*Joshua Poonan*



*Christine Peden*



*Alexander Pores*



*April Perry*  
Drama Club 9, French  
Club 11-12,



*Jessica Petalos*  
Peer Helper 12, PNN  
10-12, Football Student  
Trainer 9-12, Basketball  
Student Trainer 9-12



*Gregory Phillips*  
Drama Club 10-12, Fall  
Play 10-12, French Club  
12, Golf 10-12, Key Club  
11-12, Key Club Officer 12,  
NHS 11-12, Orchestra 9-10,  
Planetarium 9-10, Spring  
Play 9-12, Thespians 10-12,  
Science Club 9-12



*Shontae Monique  
Pirtle*



*Samantha Pelt*  
Class Government 12,  
Key Club 9, Softball 12,  
STAND 11-12, Student  
Government 12



*Christina Ponce*  
Basketball 9-10, Orchestra  
9-12



*Markesia Prott*  
Key Club 12, Teacher Aide,  
10-11



*Brigida Preciado*



*Nicole Price*  
FEA 12, NHS 12, PNN 10,  
Prom Committee 12, Quill and  
Scroll 12, STAND 9-12, STAND  
Officer 9-11, Student Advisory  
Committee 10-11, Aide 12,  
Teens for Christ 10, Valentine's  
Day Dance Queen 9, Yearbook  
12, Yearbook Organizations &  
Events Section Editor, STAND  
Community Service Awards,  
Firate Council 12



*Aprilie Ravello*  
Drill Team 10-11, STAND 10,  
ROTC Award



*Andreea Reod*  
FCCLA 12, Russian Club  
9-10, STAND 9-10-12,  
Student Government 12



*Terrika Reed*



*Karris Reed-  
Lutcher*  
CAD 11, Football 11-12,  
Wrestling 11



*Christian Edward  
Reid*



*Hannelore Reynolds*  
Class Officer Vice President  
9-12, Commencement  
Planning Committee 12,  
Class Government 9-12,  
FEA 12, Newspaper 10-12,  
Newspaper Editor-In-  
Chief 12, PNN 10-11,  
Prom Committee 12, Quill  
and Scroll 11-12, Student  
Government 9-12, Football  
Student Manager 10,  
Teacher Aide 12, Tennis 9-12



*Kyle A. Reynolds*  
Autoshop 10-11, Class  
Secretary 10-11, Class  
Government 10-12, FEA  
12, Football 9, Key Club 11,  
Teacher Aide 12, Student  
Government 10-12, Track 10



*Lesley Richards*  
Key Club 9-12, Key Club  
Officer 10-12, NHS 11-12,  
Softball 10-11, Tennis 9,  
Pirate Council 10-11



*Ayana Lynn  
Richmond*  
Basketball 9-10, Volleyball  
9-12, Volleyball Captain 12,  
Yearbook 11-12, Yearbook  
Senior Editor 12, Quill and  
Scroll 12



*Morris Richmond*  
Band 9-11, Building Trades  
12, Track 9-11, Wrestling  
9-12, Wrestling Captain 12





Vanessa L. Riley  
Drama Club 12, Russian  
Club 11-12, Spring Play  
10, Teacher Aide 12,  
Vetveteens 10



Dan Riess  
Baseball 9-10, Diving 10-12,  
Diving Captain 12, PNN  
11-12, Quill and Scroll  
11-12, Soccer 9-12, Teacher  
Aide 11-12, Yearbook 11-12,  
Yearbook Sports Editor  
12, Newspaper 12



Jose Rivera  
Autoshop 11-12



Tyler Runk  
Baseball 9, Basketball 9,  
French Club 11-12, NHS  
11-12, Peer Mediator  
9, PNN 10-12, Soccer  
9-12, Soccer Captain 12,  
Aide 10-12, Track 10-12,  
Weightlifting Champion  
11-12



Kaina Robertson  
Teens for Christ 11



Tiffany Robertson  
PNN 12, Softball 9-10,  
Teacher Aide 11, Track  
11-12, Volleyball 9-12,  
Volleyball Captain 12,  
Weightlifting Competition  
9, Weightlifting  
Competition Champion 9,  
MPAC 12



Charne Robinson



Lonnie Robinson  
Band 9-12, STAND 12,  
Marching Band 9-12,  
Marching Band Section  
Leader 12, Top Jazz Band  
10



Ryan Roddy  
Band 9-11, Key Club 9,  
Peer Mediator 12, STAND  
9, 11, 12, STAND Officer  
12, Track 10-12, Marching  
Band 9-12, Jazz Band 9-10



Antonio C. Ross  
Basketball 9-10, Basketball  
Captain 9-10, PNN 11,  
Revue 10-12, STAND 11-12,  
Teens for Christ 9-10,  
Voices of Reason President  
11-12



Michelle Rees  
NHS 11-12, Orchestra 9-12,  
STAND 9, STAND Officer  
9, Student Government 12,  
Fall Sports Student Trainer  
12, Swimming 9-12,  
Swimming Captain 11-12,  
Track 9-12, Track Captain  
12, Yearbook 12, MPAC 11-12,  
Girl Scouts 9-12



Brendon Ring  
Softball 9-12, Softball  
Captain 11, Football  
Student Manager 12,  
Teacher Aide 11-12



Megan Rutledge  
Teacher Aide 12



Matthew Sheridan  
Reservist



Katherine Sudard  
Band 9-10, Cheerleading 10-12,  
Cheerleading Captain  
12, French Club 11, NHS  
11-12, PNN 12, Student  
Government 12, Aide 12,  
MPAC 11, Cheerleading  
Most Improved Award,  
Cheerleading Leadership  
Award 12



Jasmine Sues  
Spanish Club 12



Janne Saffrahn



Alexander Solares  
Autoshop 11-12, Drama  
Club 10



Mayra Solares  
Band 10-12, Drama Club  
12



Eliza Samuels  
Marching Band 9-10,  
Basketball 9, Class  
Government 12, Cross  
Country 12, Peer Mediator  
9-12, Soccer 11, Student  
Government 12, Track  
9-12, Track Captain 12,  
Weightlifting Competition,  
Track & Field All-State  
Honors



Maria Elizabeth  
Sanchez



Susette Sancy  
Sanches  
Peer Helper 12, Soccer  
10-12, SADD 12, Yearbook  
12, Yearbook Senior Editor  
12, Soccer Scholar Athlete  
Award 11, Quill and  
Scroll 12



Mariah Sanders  
HERO 11, Student  
Government 12, Teacher  
10-11, Volleyball 10



Mike Sandridge  
CAD 9-10, Class Officer  
Secretary 12, Class  
Government 11-12, Cross  
Country 9-10, Spanish  
Club 9-10, Spring Play  
9-10, Student Government  
9-12, Swimming 9-12, Aide  
9, 10, 12, Track 9





*Kelly Barnfield*  
Golf 11-12, Golf Captain  
12, Teacher Aide 9,  
Softball 9-12, STAND 12,  
Wrestling Student Manager  
11, Teacher Aide 11-12,  
Volleyball 9, Yearbook 12,  
Yearbook Freshmen Section  
Editor 12



*Ryan Schofer*



*Kevin Schreiner*  
Building 12, Football 9,  
Quiz Bowl Team 9, Special  
Olympics 9-12



*Justin Scott*



*Samantha Senicki*  
Class President 9-11, Class  
Government 9-12, Basketball  
Homecoming Court 9, PNN  
10-12, Prom Court 11, Prom  
Queen 11, Senior Video Editor  
12, Student Government  
9-12, Baseball Manager 9-12,  
Wrestling Manager 9-12, Aide  
11-12, PNN Senior Advisor 12



*Jonathan Shannon*  
Color Guard 12, Color Guard  
Captain 12, Drama Club 9-12,  
German Club 11-12, Russian  
Club 11-12, STAND 12,  
Teacher Aide 12, Track 11



*Mark Shea*  
CAD 10-11, Football 9-11,  
Revue 12, STAND 11-12,  
Weightlifting Competition  
11



*Tiera M. Simpson*  
Teacher Aide 12, Track  
9-12, MPAC 12



*Kevold Sims*



*Anesha Smith*  
Key Club 9, Revue 12,  
Spring Play 10, STAND  
9-12, Vanity Choir 12,  
Velveteens 12, Voices of  
Reason 11-12



*Brian Keith  
Smith Jr.*



*Edwin Smith*  
Band 9-12, Cross Country  
9, FCCLA 9, Key Club 10,  
Track 11-12, Jazz Band  
9-10



*Ryan Smith*  
Basketball 9-12, Basketball  
Captain 12, Natural  
Helpers 12, Teens for  
Christ 11



*Ashley Siskowski*  
Concert Choir 9, Teacher  
Aide 12



*Nadon Soliman*  
Academic Super Bowl  
10, Key Club 9-12, Key  
Club Officer 10-12, NHS  
11-12, NHS Officer 12,  
Teacher Aide 12, Academic  
Chevron 11, Pirate Council  
10-11



*Matthew Soreasen*



*Zao Soreasen*  
Peer Helper 12, PNN 11-  
12, PNN Senior Advisor  
12, Senior Video Editor  
12, Technical Crew 12,  
Teacher Aide 12



*Monica Spawo*



*John Spencer*  
Gary Area Career Center  
11-12, Peer Mediator  
9, Revue 12, Student  
Government 12, Teacher  
Aide 12



*Cynthia Spores*  
Class Treasurer 10-12, Class  
Government 9-12, Drama Club  
9-12, Drama Club Officer 10-  
11, Fall Play 9-12, NHS 11-12,  
NHS Officer 12, Orchestra  
9-12, Revue 10, Spring Play  
9-12, STAND 10-12, Student  
Government 9-12, Boys  
Soccer Manager 11-12, Aide-  
12, Thespians 9-12, Thespians  
Officer 10-11, Indiana  
Thespians Executive Board 11



*Amanda Sporka*  
Secretary Class Officer 9-10,  
Drama Club 9-12, Drama Club  
Officer 10-12, Fall Play 9-11,  
FCCLA 11, Key Club 11-12, Key  
Club Officer 12, NHS 11-12, NHS  
Officer, Newspaper 11, Media  
Services Aide 11, Quill and Scroll  
12, Revue 10, Spring Play 9-11,  
Student Government 9-10, Teens  
for Christ 12, Thespians 9-12,  
Winter Guard 9



*Tiera Starks*  
Dance Team 10-11,  
Decathlon Team 11, Peer  
Helper 10-11



*Spring Monet  
Stewart*



*Emilia Stojan*  
Basketball 9, Class  
Government 12, Drama  
Club 9, NHS 11-12,  
Newspaper 11, Peer  
Mediator 9-12, Quill and  
Scroll 11-12, Soccer 10-12,  
Student Government 9,  
11-12, Aide 12, Track 10-11,  
Yearbook 11-12, Yearbook  
Editor 12, MPAC 12, Pirate  
Council 12





*Christopher Stokes*



*Ryan Stokes*  
Baseball 9-12, Basketball  
9-10, Football 9-12, Soccer  
9-12, Soccer Captain 11-12,  
Teacher Aide 12



*Kayla Strong*



*Michael Sweet*  
Chess Club 9-11, Concert  
9, German Club 11-12



*Francesco Svetlich*  
Autoshop 9-11, Baseball  
9-11, Basketball 9,11



*Katie Tarr*  
Cross Country 9-12, Cross  
Country Captain 12,  
FCCLA 12, PNN 10-11,  
Swimming 11-12, Teacher  
Aide 12, Track 9-12, Track  
Captain 12, Cross Country  
MVP 9-12, Pirra Council,  
MPAC 10-12



*Kelly Tarr*  
Cheerleading 9, Class  
Government 12, Choral  
Teens 11-12, Athletic Aide  
12, Spring Play 11, STAND  
9, Student Government  
12, Teacher Aide 12,  
Track 10, Varsity Choir 9,  
Velveteens 10, Vocal Teens  
11-12



*Arisa Taylor*  
Gymnastics 9-12,  
Gymnastics Captain 12,  
Track 9-12, Gymnastics  
Best Mental Attitude 9-11,  
MPAC 12



*Brandon Terrell*  
Bowling Team 9-12, CAD  
10-11, French Club 11-12,  
Golf 10, 11 Honors Program  
11, NHS 11-12, NHS Officer  
12, Peer Helper 11, Peer  
Mediator 9-11, Prom Court  
11, Soccer 9-12, STAND 10-  
12, STAND Officer 11, Aide  
12, Track 9, 11-12, USBC  
Dexter All-American Award



*Latasha Taylor*  
Marching Band 9, STAND  
12, Student Government  
12, Teacher Aide 12, Track  
10-11



*Morgan Taylor*  
Cheerleading 12, Cross  
Country 10, Newspaper  
Feature Editor 11-12,  
Teacher Aide 12, Quill and  
Scroll 11-12, STAND 10,  
Teacher Aide 12, Teens for  
Christ 11, Track 9,10,12,  
Prom Committee 12



*Rebekah Taylor*



*Eric Terry*



*Neptun Thomas*  
Concert Choir 10, Track  
9-10, Varsity Choir 10



*Nicisha Thomas*  
Band 9-10, Advanced  
Band 11-12, Track 10,  
Weightlifting Competition  
12



*Paul Thornton III*  
CAD 11, Football 10-  
11, Teacher Aide 12,  
Weightlifting Competition  
11-12



*Lindsey Tobin*  
Decathlon Team 12,  
Diving 9, Drill Team 10-11



*Cassie Traves*  
Drill Team 10, STAND 12,  
Student Government 12



*Jennifer Tucker*  
Band 9-10, Hoosier Girls  
State 11, NHS Officer  
11-12, Peer Helper 11,  
Spanish Club 9, STAND  
10, Tennis 9-12



*Harold D. Turner*  
Basketball 9, CAD 10-11,  
Cross Country 12, Track 9-  
12, All-State Honors Track  
& Field



*Tierra Turner*  
Basketball 10-12, Basketball  
Captain 12, Teacher Aide  
12



*Katelyn Underhill*  
Band 9, Color Guard 9,  
Diving 9, Drill Team 9-10,  
Soccer 9, Swimming 12,  
Tennis 9, Velveteens 9,  
ROTC



*Christopher Vole*  
Key Club 9-10, Track 10-12



*Arid Volonouela*  
NHS 11-12, Peer Helper  
12, Soccer 9-12, JV Soccer  
Captain 11, JV Leadership  
Award 11







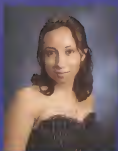
Chad David Von  
Winkle



Michael Vazquez



Eli Vazquez  
PNN 12, STAND 12,  
Student Government 12,  
Wrestling 11-12



Keosha Vazquez  
Track 11-12



Jeremy Velsky  
Building Trades 12,  
CAD 10-11, Football  
9-12, Teacher Aide 12,  
Weightlifting Competition  
9-12, Weightlifting  
Competition Champion 12



Keith D. Wooten  
Autoshop 11-12, Soccer  
9-12, Teacher Aide 12



Vanessa Wagner



Keshia Elizabeth  
Ann Walker



Ray Walker



Tracey Walker  
Choral Teens 10, Concert  
Choir 9, Fall Play 11,  
Russian Club 11, Show  
Choir 11-12, Vocal Teens  
11-12



Jamethon Wallace  
Drama Club 11-12, Drama  
Club Officer 12, Fall Play 11-  
12, PNN 11-12, Revue 11-12,  
Spring Play 11-12, STAND  
11-12, STAND Officer 11,  
Student Government 12,  
Aide 12, Thespians 11-12,  
Thespians Officer 12, Best  
Actor, All-Star at Thespians  
Regional, Lip Sync



Evette Walton  
Drama Club 10, FCCLA  
12, Spanish Club 9, Special  
Olympics 9-11



Melissa Warran  
CAD 9-12, Key Club  
9-10-12, Track 9-12,  
Volleyball 9-12, Volleyball  
Captain 12, Rotary Youth  
Leadership Award



Michele Warrshall  
FCCLA 11-12, Prom  
Committee 12, Soccer  
9-10, STAND 10, Student  
Government 12, Academic  
Achievement 4th year



Cristin Washington  
Track 11-12, Leadership  
Award



Jashen Washington  
CAD 10-12, Track 12,  
Wrestling 10-12, Wrestling  
Captain 12



Jaquise Waters  
Dance Team 11-12, Drama  
Club 12, Key Club 12,  
Revue 11-12, Student  
Government 12, Tennis 11-  
12, Track 12, Lip Sync



Mandy Weiss  
Choral Teens 10-11, Fall  
Play 10, Show Choir 11,  
Varsity Choir 9, Velveteens  
10-11, Volleyball 9-10



Bryan White  
Building Trades 12,  
Cad 12, FCCLA 9-12,  
Track 9-12, Weightlifting  
Competition 10-12



Megan White  
Key Club 9-10, STAND  
9-10-12, Student  
Government 11-12,  
Teacher Aide 11, Teens for  
Christ 11



Ashley Whiteman



Sheronah Wiggley



Theresa Lynn  
Winder



James Winderess  
CAD 10-12, Football 9-12,  
Track 11-12





Darius Williams  
Baseball 12, Football  
9-12, STAND 9, Track 11,  
Weightlifting Competition  
12



Sarah Williams  
Peer Helper 10-11,  
Prom Court 11, Softball  
9-12, Softball Captain  
12, Student Government  
12, Teacher Aide 11-12,  
Volleyball 9, MPAC 11



Stephen E.  
Williams II  
NHS 12



Blake Willis  
Football 10, Orchestra  
9-10, STAND 9-10, Teacher  
Aide 12, Track 10, 12,  
Weightlifting Competition  
12, Building Trades 12



Erika Morque  
Wise



Jack Robert  
Witter Jr.

Snead Abdullah  
CAD 9

Annis Acosta  
Brandon Rayman  
Adams

Keara Duane Adams  
Mard Suiad  
A Khateeb

Jesha Anderson  
Concert Choir 10-11

Katherine Anderson  
Ricky Anderson

Christian Jesse  
Anthony

Marco Arango  
Soccer 11-12

Derrian J. Barker  
Nathan Jr. Barnes

Martez D'Angelo  
Boco

Catherine Bergman  
Phillip Andrews

Boping  
Jasmine Blake

Helen Bond  
Natalee God

Bader  
William Bradley

Building Trades 12  
Deandre Briggs

Tiesha Brann  
Marquis Terrell

Bruce  
Travis Bullock

Marique Cooper  
Jerome Coon

Opthia Corbajon  
Cheryl Resetta

Cocoy  
Northwood Cocoy

Richard D.  
Cook Jr.

Baseball 9-11, CAD 10, Cross  
Country 11, Drill Team 12,  
Football 9-10, Swimming 9-10



Nicholas Ndoko  
Autoshop 12, Orchestra  
9-11, Swimming 10-12,  
Swimming Captain 12



Koolvia Woodfork  
Drama Club 12, Peer  
Mediator 9-12, Spring  
Play 12, Teacher Aide 11,  
Thespians 12, Handbells  
10-11

Jazmin Collidge  
Marching Band 9-11,  
Decathlon Team 9-11,  
Orchestra 9-10, Science  
Olympiad 9-11

Jennifer Lauren  
Cesko  
Chanel Renee

Clark  
Jerry Clark

Building Trades  
11, Track 9

LeYan L. Clark  
William Lomarr

Cleveland  
Deandre Martel

Cooper  
Devin Copeland

Building Trades 12  
Football 9-12, Track 9-12

Tavan David  
Canneghem

Band 9-12, Drumline 9-12,  
Jazz Impressions 9-12, Jazz  
Impact 9-12, PNN 10, Revue  
9-12, Voices of Reason 11

Thomas Dalton  
Color Guard 10-12, Drill  
Team 10-12, Football  
9, Teacher Aide 10-12,  
Wrestling 10

Elle Davis  
Concert Choir 9-10

Dorcas Davis  
Drill Team 9-11

Kyle Davis

Melvin Davis  
Academic Super Bowl 9-10,  
Basketball 9, Chess Club 9,  
Cross Country 12, Fall Play  
9-10, Football 9, Science  
Olympiad 9, Spring Play  
9-11, Teens for Christ 9-10,  
Track 11-12, Wrestling 9,  
Yearbook 12

Milton Davis  
Victoria Davis

Jordan Taylor  
Denson

Dante Tamarr  
Day

Marsha J. Taylor  
Dennis

Victoria DeSoto  
Deante Diamond

Niko Dorel  
Taylor Douglas

Band 9-10, Baseball 9-12,  
CAD 12, National Honor  
Society 11-12, Swimming 9,  
Yearbook 12, Scholar Athlete  
11

Keon Dorell  
David

William Dukes  
Richard Dunn

Kaylan Kostrell  
Earlan

Northwood Edge  
Phillip Hawn

Eaves Jr.

Kaitlin Evans  
Class Government 12, Cross  
Country 12, Future Educators  
of America 12, FCCLA 12,  
Peer Mediator 12, Revue  
12, Science Olympiad 12,  
Student Government 12,  
Tennis 12, Track 12

Charles Alfred  
Ewing IV

Jesid Fajardo  
CAD 10-11

Derio Foulkner  
Jeremy Fawcett

Iesha Tachia  
Garcia

Jasmine Starr  
Garcia

Enrique Garcia  
J. Juan Gon

Building Trades 12, Drama  
Club 11, Wrestling 11

Jeremy Allen  
Gidore

Jashun Gion  
Brandon Kristopher

Cober  
Michael Robert

Garza  
Terrance Gordon

Wrestling 10  
Deandre Gray

Football 11-12, Weightlifting  
Competition 10

Charles Gresham  
Christina Gumm

STAND 9  
Sabrina Hubbard

Romer

Karl Boreto  
Hamilton  
Terrence L. Hamilton  
Ashley Honey  
Andre Lomov  
Hardaway

Daniqua Harris  
Track 12

James Eric  
Harris

Robert Lee  
Harrison

Tramaine Harvey  
Kiana Shaleh

Hay  
Tiffany Arood

Nia Hurdley  
McShannon Hurst

Cotton Henry  
Andrew N. Andre

Hilder  
Heather Hicks

Kerry Scott  
Highsmith

Jashun Hight  
Driving 9, Swimming 9-10

Ashley Hite  
Cross Country 10-11, STAND

9, Student Government 11-  
12, Track 9-11

Kevin Hutter  
Hudlowski

Fabian Morales  
Hoffmann

Adajack Hutton  
Gregory Sylvestro

Holley II

Ashlynn George  
Hopkins

Matthew Hruskay  
Norshawn Hudson

Phillip Wayne  
Haley III

Demetrius Jackson  
Peer Helper 11, Teacher Aide

11, Track 11, Weightlifting  
Competition 11, Weightlifting  
Competition Champion 11

Quinn Christopher Jackson

Idell Dese  
James

Natole James  
Yearbook 11, Yearbook  
Academics Editor 11

Bianca Jones  
Jahesi

Brandon Johnson  
Hayley Johnson

Jordan Dione  
Johnson

Terrance Terrell  
Johnson

Zach Johnson  
Building Trades 12

Jatonya Jolly  
Cassondra Jones

Antonio Kilro  
Jones Jr.

Mariah L. Jones  
Michael Jones

Tekemara J. Jovi  
Jones

Kristine L. Kaiser  
Melissa Kephira

Ryan Kessler

# Camera



Ashley A. Woods



Joamine Woods  
Band 9-12, Dance Team  
9-12, Newspaper 11-12,  
Newspaper Editor 12,  
Peer Helper 12, Quill  
and Scroll 11-12, Student  
Government 12, Teacher  
Aide 12



Torryn Woods  
Gymnastics 10-12, Teacher  
Aide 11-12, Track 10



Anthony Wright



Monroe Wright  
Marching Band 9-12,  
Bowling Team 10-12,  
Chess Club 9-10, FCCLA  
11-12, Football



Leroy Yarbrough  
Baseball 9, Basketball  
Captain 9, Football 12,  
PNN 12, Track 10-12



Kenneth Woodfork  
Spell Bowl Team 12



James Larkin

# Shy Seniors

Darrel Elijah  
King  
Stemhouse King  
Karl Kibowski  
Lourana Niyre  
Lee  
Joshua Michael  
Ledes  
James Lewis  
Roy Arbuton  
Lewis  
Desrae A. Leavaso  
Christopher W.  
Logan  
Akemvra Priscilla  
Long  
James Long II  
Band 9, Baseball 12, Bowling  
Team 10-11, Football 9-10  
Damarque Love  
Drill Team 9-11  
Victoria Lucio  
Roman Luna  
Anthony Mabane  
Delapa Macarthy  
Basketball 12, Basketball  
Captain 12, Football 11-12,  
Football Captain 12  
Michael Magee  
Devante Dorian  
Mabane  
Michael J. Morrice  
Voice Bryan  
Mages  
Band 9-12, Band 9-12,  
Track 11-12  
Nargan Marsh  
Angela Most

Carvel Mayfield  
Roy McGowher  
AFJROTC 9-12  
Lequante Daville  
McDaniel  
Cornelius Quenton  
McKinney  
Dylan Williams  
Meadows  
Leanneth Elizabeth  
Medker  
Milly Milburn  
Gary Area Career Center  
11-12  
Dorison G. Mitchell  
Ellis Hayes  
Montgomery Jr.  
Dezmon Moore  
Gary Area Career Center  
11-12  
Samantha Niede  
Moss  
Ryan Murga  
Christina Novackski  
Cheerleading 9-10  
Berman Norwood  
CAD 11-12, Drill Team 10-12,  
Revue 12 Bask  
Brake Morgan An  
Orovalich  
Terrance Opola  
Art Club 9, Spanish Club 10,  
Teacher Aide 11  
Kenneth Eugene  
Oiler Jr.  
Willie Alexander  
Olie  
Stephen Pagan  
Andrea Palm

Anthony Polosovski  
Marsha Parker  
Russell Parkhurst  
David Parks  
Justin Floyd  
Patterson  
Jacob Pavel  
Swimming 9-12, Swimming  
Captain 11-12, Swimming  
MVP 11  
Tevin Pearson  
Building Trades 12, Drill  
Team 10-11  
Hazel Pietrowski  
National French Test 10,  
Teacher Aide 12, Lip Sync 9  
Aarav Jay  
Piggee  
David William  
Panti  
Barak Pade  
Anastasia Tamar  
Porter  
Jessica Price  
Rita Powell  
Cross Country 11, Key Club  
11, Volleyball 9  
Odel Jamar  
Reeves  
Cody Repoldt  
Amiree Resendes  
Ashley Richards  
Joseph  
Richard Jr.  
Donelvis  
Richardson  
Dylan Roberts  
German Club 10-12, Russian  
Club 10-12

Jad Rachoun  
Robson  
Shedrick  
Robson Jr.  
Latifa Kera  
Robson  
Vanique Raso  
Bronnie Marie  
Sanders  
Jonathan Sotkaski  
Mariah Danielle R.  
Schmidt  
Cekes Scott  
Tennis 12  
Chane Smith  
Candice Smith  
Kara Smith  
Juska Barbara  
Smith  
Joshua Stocker  
Band 9-12, CAD 12, Jazz  
Impe 10-12, STAND 12,  
Track 10-12  
Samuel Stewart  
David Samuel  
Suttles  
Akel Grandrud  
Tomburg  
Nancy Tapa  
Ashlyn Taylor  
Concert Choir, Voices of  
Reason 11  
Melden Jantorio  
Teague

Courtney Tamez  
Thomas  
Joann Victoria  
Ros Thomas  
Javon Anthony  
Thomas  
Keith Danrell  
Thomas  
Crystal T  
Thompson Anderson  
Orlando Toney  
Drill Team 10-12, STAND 9,  
Track 12  
Walter L. Toney  
Eliasa Jeanette  
Torres  
Julie Grace  
Triesky  
Celtan Tucker  
Julian Turner  
Lisa Margaret  
Udeas  
Joseph VanVleet  
Nataly Vivamantes  
Roxeteria  
Bryant Gregory  
Woblen  
Chesle L Walker  
Arian Lovell  
Washington  
Christopher Matt  
Washington  
Damaris Xavier

Washington  
Jagard Jervell  
Washington  
Sharon A Watkins  
Joshua Wells  
Patrick Whelan  
Bowling Team 9-10, CAD  
10, Diving 9-10, Peer Helper  
9-10, Teacher Aide 12  
Darius Vincent  
White  
Derek Cosimir  
Williams  
John Andrew  
Williams II  
Jamel Williams  
CAD 12, Track 12, Wrestling  
11  
James Kerell  
Williams  
Brian Darnell  
Williams Jr.  
Christian Wilson  
Justin Winters  
Derrin Eugene  
Woodson  
Sabrina Tawfik  
Yasin  
Joamine Jovne  
Yangelstad  
Matthew Zeko



# Senior choice awards.

Best Dressed

Alaysia Burns and  
Jerry Arthur Holcomb Jr.



Best Personality

Tylar Davis and  
Dontarius Williams



Jeremy Vislosky, Joey Nelson, Aaron Kaczmarek,  
Tyler Roark, James Manis and Keith Pavlish

Most Likley to Stay Friends



Class Clown

Joey Nelson and Ava Meux



Most Likely to Stay Friends

Brianna Bandy and Ashley Cherry



Caitlyn Spires and  
Jonathan Wallace



Stephanie Hart  
and Christopher Stokes



Best Actor/Actress

Most Likely to Succeed

Brianna M. Clark  
and Brandon Terrell Taylor



Best Dancer

Dolapo Macarthy  
and Nadia Millard



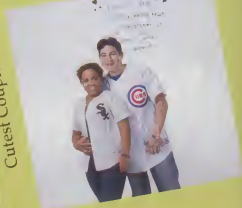
Best Car

Most Likely to Become Famous

Henry Collins and  
Lorielle Johnson



Alyssa Lynn Richmond  
and Anthony Lucas



Cutest Couple



Nicest Eyes

Marrium Nicole Jones  
and Nick Antich



Best Hair

Jerry Arthur Holcomb Jr.  
and Danielle Bly



Nicest Smile

Ronald Landrum  
and Jasmine Woods



Best Body

Tiera M. Simpson  
and Robbie Jordan



Most Actively Involved

Hannelore Reynolds  
and Brandon Terrell Taylor



Most Intelligent

Brandon Terrell Taylor  
and Lindsay Mendez



Kelsey Barrick and Ryan Stokes



Most Athletic

Most Likely to Come Back  
and Teach at MHS

Aaron Kaczmariski  
and Amanda Spudic



Most Spirited

Ava Meux and Mike Sandridge



Most Popular

Lorielle Johnson  
and Dolapo Macarthy



Most Talkative

Tracey Walker and Tylar Davis



Most Musical

Kelly Tarr and Antonio C. Ross





With the microphone in her hand, Senior Class President Brianna Clark talks to the Senior Class during the Senior Breakfast. "I enjoyed being able to see everyone look nice and come together. It was just a really positive event," Clark said. During the Senior Breakfast, Clark felt "lots and lots of happiness." Clark was happy with the turnout at the Senior Breakfast. "It's been a long year, and it was really nice to see everything come to a close in a positive way," Clark said. After the breakfast, Clark went to McDonalds and to the mall, and even made a music video for her Calculus class. "The Senior Breakfast was perfect. I wouldn't change a thing," Clark said.



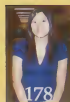
While attending the Senior Breakfast, Senior Shonee Jones enjoys the Senior Video with friends. Jones said she enjoyed being with all her friends at the breakfast. "I like taking pictures with everyone and enjoying time with my friends," Jones said. The Senior Breakfast was also a bittersweet moment for Jones. "I was sad because we're all departing, but happy because we've come so far," Jones said. Even though Jones said she enjoyed the breakfast, she wished that the weather was better. "I would change the weather so we could have gone to the beach instead of being cold," Jones said. After the breakfast, Jones went home and spent some time with her best friend and boyfriend.



During the Senior Breakfast, Senior Brittany Brise Patterson watches the trailer for the Senior Video. "I really enjoyed the breakfast. I liked taking pictures with all my friends and just being there with all the seniors to enjoy this one last event before graduation," Patterson said. Patterson felt both sad and happy during the breakfast. "I was happy because the year was finally over, and I knew that graduation was approaching, but sad because I knew that I may not see some of my closest friends anymore," Patterson said. Patterson felt that the breakfast was a good way to bring all the seniors together. "Overall, the breakfast was just the perfect way to end the year," Patterson said.



"My favorite part of the breakfast was just getting to spend time with my classmates for one last time and taking a million pictures with everyone's cameras," Senior Lesley Richards said. During the Senior Breakfast, Richards came to the realization that high school was coming to an end for her. "It hit me that I'm really graduating and leaving this place. I was sad and happy all at the same time," Richards said. Richards had been waiting for the Senior Breakfast all year. "I think it's one of the things that we all wait for," Richards said. Although Richards enjoyed herself at the breakfast, she was sad knowing that she was probably never going to see half the people from her class again. After the breakfast, Richards went to Indiana Beach. "I wouldn't change a thing about the Senior Breakfast. It was really fun, and I got to be with all my friends," Richards said.



senior breakfast.

# SENIOR DRIVE AROUND.



Waving from Senior Taryn Woods' Nissan Armada, Seniors Kearia Patterson, JaQuoya Shanta Jackson and Alaysia Burns hang out the windows as they drive around the school. "It was something positive that the whole Senior Class was a part of," Burns said. "I thought it was good how it came together and all the seniors were there," Woods added. However, it was also emotional for Burns "because it's the last time we're going to see people."

Embracing the "going green" idea, Seniors Morgan Taylor and Brianna Clark take a different approach to the traditional Senior Drive Around and ride bikes instead of driving cars. "It was this little joke Morgan and I had because of the cost of gas. Coincidentally, neither of us had gas that day," Clark added. Joining the girls were Seniors Joel Winkle, Eric Terry and Taylor Douglas on scooters. "We wanted to stand out," Van Winkle said. "We wanted to be the scooter squad," Douglas added.



Joining Senior Nick Neligan in the back of Senior Derek Shea's truck are Seniors Joel Fles and Matthew Sheridan Rosenthal. "We were trying to think of a way to grab attention," Neligan stated. Neligan has been playing the drums for seven years; however, they all have an interest in music.



Senior Michael Magee



Seniors Mike Santridge and Ashley Negrelli



Senior Michael Ocanek





senior vs. faculty basketball game.

seniors. faculty.

34 38



During last time, Senor St. George Hurt and teacher Mr. Joe St. Bird were named the winners of the Dance, with the Teachers contest. They then performed their dance routine, a "Hula Hula" school. I think that all our hard work paid off. I'm proud as they did the dance, but I'm proud as well.



*eating contest.*

Junior Lawrence Scroggins, Sophomore Joshua Shoulder & Freshman Caleb Pirtle



Senior Nicholas Wolak, Lawrence Scroggins,  
Joshua Shoulder and Caleb Pirtle



Senior Nicholas Wolak





## events.

# SENIOR DECATHLON.



**Snack Drinking**

Senior Alex Adams left and Josh Linn left behind after the Snack Drinking game. The game was a drinking game with a twist. If you win, you get a drink. If you lose, you get a drink. It was a drinking game with a twist.



**Go-Kart Race**

Junior Kasey Smith won the go-kart race. She was driving a red go-kart and was the fastest. She won the race by a wide margin.



**Ping Pong**

Senior Scott Smith won the ping pong game. He was playing against a senior and won the game. He was the fastest and the most accurate.



**Triathlon**

Senior Tim Smith won the triathlon. He was the fastest and the most accurate. He won the race by a wide margin.

Two events. 30 contestants, 2 winners and only 1 winner! The Senior Decathlon has been a tradition for the past seven years.

A competition that started just as a (boring) event to be aired on the Friday Show, it turned into something fun for the seniors to have one last crack at the stuff to rid them of themselves from the Senior Faculty Basketball game," Mr. Mark Ciesielski said.

This year's events included Ping Pong, Snack Drinking Challenge, Go-Kart Racing, Miniature Golf, Balance Beam, the Triathlon, Chicken Fighting, Quarterback and Receiver Challenge, a Soccer Shoot Out and a Team Obstacle Course.

"The students and teachers get together and decide when and where is best for the event to take place," Mr. Ciesielski said.

As the decathlon came to a close, the seniors and staff tied.

Going into the last event, the free throw challenge, the seniors were down by one event.

"I was slightly nervous but you win as a team, you lose as a team," Senior Zia Sowinski said. "And you won!" Sowinski added.

This has only happened one other time in the history of the decathlon in the 2004 school year.

As a tie breaker, the coach of the staff, Mr. Ciesielski, faced off against Senior Coach Tyler Roark in one final event of a tie winning.

"In the end I know it would be close. I felt it wouldn't be a blowout like last year. I knew it would go to the end," Roark said.

As the Senior Decathlon came to an end, the teachers brought their record to 7-1.

"I felt good winning, but I felt a lot of pressure from only losing once in the past. But I felt really good to come away with a win," Mr. Ciesielski said.

"I didn't really feel bad at all losing," Roark said.

Teachers always have an edge because of experience. I feel the teachers will always win," Mr. Ciesielski said.



**Free Throw Challenge**

Senior Zia Sowinski won the free throw challenge. She was the fastest and the most accurate. She won the challenge by a wide margin.



**Soccer Shootout**

Senior Zia Sowinski won the soccer shoot out. She was the fastest and the most accurate. She won the shoot out by a wide margin.



**Quarterback/Receiver Challenge**

Senior Zia Sowinski won the quarterback/receiver challenge. She was the fastest and the most accurate. She won the challenge by a wide margin.



**Chicken Fight**

In a close match, Seniors Aaron Kaczmarek and Kelsey Hylk won the Chicken Fight against Mr. Luke Safford and Mr. Carolina Proctor. It was a close match. Seniors won the match by a wide margin.



**Miniature Golf**

Senior Zia Sowinski won the miniature golf game. She was the fastest and the most accurate. She won the game by a wide margin.

## tie - breaker.



Senior Zia Sowinski won the tie-breaker game. She was the fastest and the most accurate. She won the game by a wide margin.



**Balance Beam**

Senior Zia Sowinski won the balance beam challenge. She was the fastest and the most accurate. She won the challenge by a wide margin.



# BACCALAUREATE.



As the audience looks on, Senior Justin Ladd speaks at the 2009 Baccalaureate. The Union of Baccalaureate is held at the church, usually attended by 500-600. As a tradition, the baccalaureate is held at the church, usually attended by 500-600. As a tradition, the baccalaureate is held at the church, usually attended by 500-600.



Mr. Miles Dunscombe



The baccalaureate is a tradition that has been held at the church for over 100 years. It is a time of reflection and prayer for the students and their families. The baccalaureate is a time of reflection and prayer for the students and their families. The baccalaureate is a time of reflection and prayer for the students and their families.

Senior Rebecca Neville

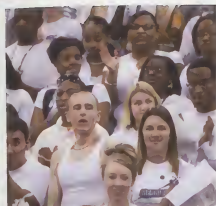


Senior Antonio C. Ross



Senior Kandace Greene





Seniors dressed in white at the  
Seniors vs. Faculty Game



Seniors Keon Jones and Dontarius Williams



Mr. James Stampy and  
Student Teacher Ms. Jenny Williams



Seniors William Gaskins and  
Junior Riker Kyrshir



Seniors Morgan Young, Haniyah Brown, Breanna Clark, Ashlee Clark, and Kaitlyn Woods posing in their best and brightest attire for "We Are Young," the annual senior event. They were the winners of the "We Are Young" contest, a contest for the best "We Are Young" performance. They were the winners of the contest.



Representing Seniors  
Seniors: We Are Young  
We Are Young

senior spirit.







Senior Jessica McIndoo claps as Assembly Senior Tyler Rusk gives his speech. In years past, the speakers have chosen to reward a student through trophies, but there were usually three valedictorians and one salutatorian, each recognized a serious honor conferred by a quote from a well-known person.

Eighty years after Mrs. Hazel Phary Mayer graduated from Merrill High School, she attended her second commencement. Mr. Michael Kravitz, principal, presents Mrs. Mayer with a dozen purple roses as Guest of Honor. Director Mrs. Michelle Sulich looks on. Mrs. Mayer's family turned the land that is now Turkey Creek Golf Course elementary school on 73rd Ave. In contrast to her graduating class of 1909, the Class of 2009 included 479.



Superintendent Mr. Tony Lux, Senior Kelly Sarsfield and Mr. Joe Atria



Senior Deaundre Gray



Superintendent Mr. Tony Lux and Senior Gregory Phillips



Seniors Lauren Evans and Danielle Wagner



SENIORS 2009.



# commencement.



Mr. Joseph Atria

As a first time guest speaker, Biology teacher Mr. Joseph Atria says he was very surprised to find out he was chosen. "I used to teach most of the students when they were underclassmen. That's why it came to me as such a surprise," Mr. Atria said. Mr. Atria started (laughed) blather asked me, I started thinking about things that were my graduation and that I'd want to talk about. I started thinking about "here," he said.

After showing an artist's representation of the Memorial Garden to the Senior Class, Senior Class President Foster Cullum Spires presents the class gift to School Board President Mr. Mark Lucas. The Class of 2009 donated a round in the shape of a footprint for the Memorial Garden, considering the impact the class had on the school. A stone etched with the name of William White will be placed in the garden.

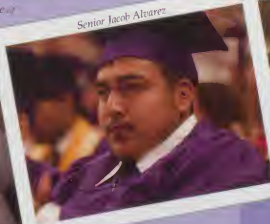


Cheering and applauding, graduates celebrate as 1000 pounds of white and gold confetti cascade from the Star Plaza Theatre's ceiling.

*'This senior class is an outstanding class.'*



Seniors Cristina Guzman and Kayla Hahnke



Senior Jacob Alvarez



Seniors Brandon Adams and Elisha Alamilla



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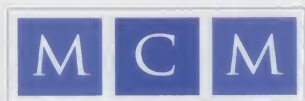


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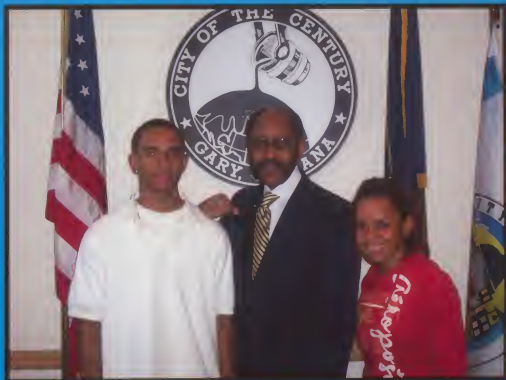
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## Mallory Lancaster

No one cares as completely, believes in you as deeply or loves you as much as we do. We will always be here for you.

May all your dreams come true.

Love Mom, Matt, G-Ma & G-Pa



## Kirsten Koharchik

You're gonna miss this..  
You're gonna want this  
back. You're gonna wish  
these days hadn't gone  
by so fast.

Love, Mom and Dad



## Melissa —Warren



Congratulations on all you have done. Good luck in all you do & remember it's all about Him.

We are very proud of you.

Love, Mom and Dad



## KELSEY BROOKE BARRICK

WHEREVER YOU GO, NO MATTER WHAT THE WEATHER, ALWAYS  
REMEMBER TO BRING YOUR OWN SUNSHINE! THANK YOU KELSEY  
FOR ALL THE JOY & WONDERFUL MEMORIES OF THE LAST 18 YEARS.  
WE LOVE YOU SOOO MUCH! MOM & DAD





## Alyssa Brindley

We are so proud  
of you and  
all that you have  
accomplished.  
Remember to always  
follow your heart,  
wherever it may lead,  
and all your hopes,  
dreams and wishes,  
you will one day  
achieve.

"Good Luck  
at VALPO!"

We love you very much  
Mom, Dad, Kristin and Nicole

## Christopher Gemelas



Congratulations on  
all your  
achievements



May all of your dreams  
come true!

Love Dad, Mom, Dane  
and Nen

## Kendall Bonick



Life will lead  
you in many  
directions. Choose  
your path and  
focus on your  
goals. Believe  
in yourself.  
We are both very  
proud you!

Love, Mom and Dad



# Brandon Taylor

*You have been granted  
a gift from God!*

*As you capture this blessing,  
through all of the accolades,  
acknowledgements and honors  
bestowed upon you, you continue  
to remain humble and prayerful.*

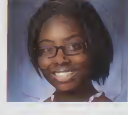
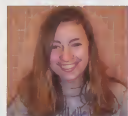
*Your potential is boundless and  
your faith is undeniable!  
Saying that we are proud of you  
just doesn't seem adequate!  
Thank you allowing us to share  
the beginning of a remarkable journey!*

*We Love You,  
Mom, Dad & Marissa*





# Building a Legacy



Class of 2009

I have enjoyed watching you ladies develop not only into passionate, expressive dancers, but into beautiful, young women over the past four years. Even if dancing is not in your future plans, it will always be a part of you. It has made you who you are today. Life is not choreographed. You are now the choreographer as you create your own dance of life. I love you ladies more than you will ever know and wish you the best of luck in all of your future endeavors. "Dance is the truest expression of the soul."

"Peace, Love and Happy Dancing"  
Coach Volkman



"To watch us dance is to see our hearts speak."

## Alyssa Richmond



"Never grow a  
wishbone, Alyssa,  
where your backbone  
ought to be." We  
are very proud of  
your strength and  
determination to  
stand for what  
you believe without  
any reservation.  
You will reach your  
dreams.



Love,  
Mom and Dad





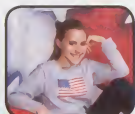
Ruby,

You have achieved a very important milestone in your life. Enjoy your success in graduating and recognize that, with effort, you can succeed in anything. You have made us very proud, Congratulations Baby!

Love, Mommy & Daddy



Congratulations, Stephen and Stephanie Hart  
Mom & Dad



Lindsay Mendez

Lindsay, we are so very proud of you and all your accomplishments. Congratulations and best of luck on all your future endeavors.

Love, Mom, Dad and Grandpa





## Emilija Stojeva

*It is hard to believe 18 years have gone by. Now you have grown into a beautiful young lady. We are proud of you and you are everything to us. We love you sooo much!*  
-Mom, Dad, and your brother, Aleksandar



## Kelly Sarsfield



**Congratulations Kelly!**  
The best is yet  
to come!  
We are proud of you!  
Love, Dad,  
Mom & Katie

**Congratulations Kelly!**  
Your senior year  
is precious.  
Remember it always!  
We love you.  
Baka & Grandma

## Congratulations!



Scholar Athletes Tyler Roark and Emilija Stojeva and Athletes of the Year Kelsey Barnick and Ryan Stokes



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2009 Co-Editors  
Seniors Emilia Stojova  
and Mallory Lancaster

# note from the editors.

# colophon.

This book began as an infinitesimal idea, developed into a vision and matured into a yearbook that exceeded our expectations.

Looking at the task ahead of us, saying we were overwhelmed is an understatement. Feeling unprepared, we attended the Indiana University High School Journalism camp over the summer. The first day of classes we realized we were behind. We quickly had to decide on a theme that would be consistent throughout the entire book, which was probably the hardest decision we had to make. From there on, the book unraveled in our minds.

At the awards ceremony on the last day of camp, we finished ahead of hundreds of students. Before any pages had even been produced, this book was award-winning. The IU School of Journalism awarded us with the best theme and third place in the yearbook design contest.

Towards the middle of the year, we hit a lot of rough spots. It was constant stress. In fact, we both grew our first and only white hairs—for now.

Having a second opinion eased a lot of pressure off the both of us, especially on deadline, when it was crunch time. It was really helpful having each other to split the workload.

Not saying it was all good times, stress caused a lot of fights. But overall, we pulled together to turn our vision into paper, binding and cardboard.

Sure, it doesn't sound like much of an accomplishment, but you don't know the half of it.

Of course, we didn't do it by ourselves. None of this would have been possible without our adviser, Mrs. Teresa Procter. She was our third editor, our third musketeer. Thanks to her this has been one of the most beneficial experiences. We learned a lot from being editors. Organization, leadership and creativity all came from this experience.

Putting together a 216-page book is a pretty large task for two people to accomplish. It's all worth it in the end. We wish the best of luck for the editors of years to come. Our advice is to quit before you start—just kidding. Just remember that the most important part is the beginning.

Just like the game Jenga, you can't start working on the top until the bottom is stable. Every piece is significant to the puzzle. You can't start building a great yearbook until even the smallest components are set. The fate of the entire Jenga structure depends upon the players and their choices. One bad choice and the entire yearbook could come crashing down to pieces.

With another school year drawn to an end, another chapter has been published in MHS history. The memories of 2008-2009 are all here, confined within our pages, to gain remembrance through this book.

As members of Quill and Scroll, the Indiana High School Press Association and the National Scholastic Press Association, the Merrillville High School yearbook staff presents this 84th volume of *Merrillvue*.

Under the guidance of Mrs. Teresa Procter and led by co-editors Mallory Lancaster and Emilia Stojova, the third hour yearbook class developed this book with the theme of "get perspective." It was our intention to create something that was not just a yearbook, but also a documentation that represents each and every perspective of high school students and the cornucopia that make us one.

First and foremost, the staff would like to thank Mrs. Procter for her intuition, patience and guidance in producing this yearbook. Without her assistance, this yearbook would not have been possible.

Mrs. Valerie T. Tanke, a sales representative for Walsworth Publishing Company, also assisted the creation of this book. The staff would like to thank Mrs. Tanke for her perceptive help throughout the production of this book.

Thank you to HR Imaging Partners Inc. who took the underclassmen and faculty portraits. The yearbook staff also shows their gratitude to Mr. John Bir of John Golas Photographers and his staff for taking all of the senior portraits along with the pictures necessary for sections including Lifestyles, Academics, Sports, Organizations & Events, Performing Arts and the Senior Section. We are grateful for his willingness to attend school events in order to photograph and capture moments that will now be remembered through this yearbook.

To create this book, the staff used Adobe InDesign CS2, Microsoft Word and Adobe Photoshop with fonts including Goudy for all stories, Goudy Italic for all captions, scoreboards and group picture titles, Helvetica for group captions, Goudy Bold and Helvetica Bold for all design embellishments and Sleepwalker for all headlines on the cover, title page, dividers and spreads.

The 2009 yearbook staff would also like to make it known that the assistance and contributions from Athletic Department, the secretaries of the Main Office, the Guidance Department and all coaches were greatly appreciated. Appreciation is also due to Mr. Mark Ciesielski and the PNN staff for their assistance in advertising this yearbook. Thank you to Rachel Pietraszak and Shannon Wood for taking and providing the photographs for the dividers. The staff thanks all other persons and groups that have aided in the production of this book.

## 2009 Merrillvue Staff

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the 1990s, the number of people in the UK with a mental health problem has increased by 50% (Mental Health Act 1983, 1993). The prevalence of mental health problems in the UK is estimated to be 10% (Mental Health Act 1983, 1993).

There is a growing awareness of the need to address the needs of people with mental health problems in the workplace. The Mental Health Act 1983 (1993) states that employers have a duty to provide a safe and healthy working environment for their employees. This duty includes the need to take steps to prevent the occurrence of mental health problems in the workplace. The Health and Safety Commission (1994) has estimated that the cost of mental health problems to the UK economy is £1.5 billion per year.

The purpose of this paper is to review the current state of knowledge about the prevalence of mental health problems in the workplace. The paper will first review the current state of knowledge about the prevalence of mental health problems in the UK. It will then review the current state of knowledge about the prevalence of mental health problems in the workplace. Finally, it will discuss the implications of the current state of knowledge for the development of workplace mental health policies.

## 2. Prevalence of mental health problems

The prevalence of mental health problems in the UK is estimated to be 10% (Mental Health Act 1983, 1993). This estimate is based on data from the 1993 National Survey of Mental Health. The survey found that 10% of the population had a mental health problem in the previous 12 months. This figure is similar to the prevalence of mental health problems in other developed countries.

The prevalence of mental health problems in the workplace is estimated to be 5% (Mental Health Act 1983, 1993). This estimate is based on data from the 1993 National Survey of Mental Health. The survey found that 5% of the population had a mental health problem in the previous 12 months. This figure is similar to the prevalence of mental health problems in other developed countries.

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